Maine Farmer.

AGRICULTURE, MECHANIC ARTS, LITERATURE, NEWS, &c.

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Maine Farmer.

S. L. BOARDMAN, Agricultural Editor.

Programme

For the Farmers' Convention of the State Board of Agriculture at Warren, Feb. 19th, 20th and 21st, 1878.

FIRST DAY.

10 A. M. Winter care of Farm Stock, C. Hayford, Presque Isle.

10½ A. M. Improvement of Waste Lands, I. E. Mallett, Topsham.

11 A. M. Discussion, to be opened by J. Thissell, Corinth.

2 P. M. Best method of Improving and Renovating our Farms, Horace Bodwell, Acton.

2½ P. M. Discussion: to be opened by W. W. Harris, Portland.

7½ P. M. The Time: Some Recent Phases of Labor and Industry, Samuel L. Boardman, Augusta.

SECOND DAY.

9½ A. M. Permanent Pastures and their Maintenance, H. L. Leland, East Sangerville.

10 A. M. Forestry: The Planting of Forest Trees on Hillsides and Waste Lands, J. Marshall Brown, Portland.

11 A. M. General Discussion of the above subjects.

2 P. M. Grasses and Forage Plants, Samuel Wasson, East Surry.

3 P. M. Discussion: to be opened by J. O. Keys, North Jay.

7½ P. M. "Walks and Talks on the Farm," Jos. Harris, Moreton Farm, Rochester, N. Y.

THIRD DAY.

9½ A. M. "Talks with the Deacon," Jos. Harris, Moreton Farm, Rochester, N. Y.

2 P. M. Indian Corn, Dr. E. Lewis Sturtevant, Waushakum Farm, So. Framingham, Mass.

3 P. M. General Discussion of the above subject.

7½ P. M. The Farmers and the Schools: A Plea for the Natural Sciences in our Educational System, Hon. W. J. Corthell, State Superintendent of Common Schools, Augusta.

Cheese Factories in Maine in 1877.

It is quite impossible to obtain accurate statistics of the business of associated dairying in our State. Cheese factories are in the strictest sense private corporations and are obliged to make no returns whatever, to any person or department, of the amount of business done or the number of pounds of cheese made. The facts in which the public, and especially farmers' are interested, are readily obtained from some factories, and from others repeated requests for information receive no attention and meet with no response whatever. In this condition of things it will be at once seen that it is impossible to obtain accurate statistics of this industry in any year. In 1875, there were sixty cheese factories in operation in this State; and in 1876, returns were received from but thirty-five—yet it is believed that the business of associated dairying in Maine had not depreciated to the extent indicated by the less number of factories, from which returns were received in the last named year. The fairer inference is that many factories from having made a less amount of cheese in 1876 than in 1875, refused to make any report to any source from which a statement of their business would be likely to be made public. Taking these facts into consideration, it is fair to say that any statement of the amount of factory cheese made in this State in any one year is rather comparative than accurate, and is to be taken with some allowance.

So far as we are able to report this industry for 1877, reports have been obtained from twenty-seven factories against thirty-five in 1876. In the returns for 1876 are reports from thirteen factories not heard from for 1877, and the returns for 1877 give reports from seven factories not reported as in operation in 1876. So that the business of associated dairying in Maine can but be regarded as somewhat variable, depending upon local conditions and circumstances as to whether they operate or not, during any given year.

During the season of 1877 the Houlton factory operated the greatest number of days, (a little over six months,) and produced the greatest amount of cheese of any factory in Maine, viz., 42,187 lbs—against 30,986 lbs made in 1876, in a little over five months. The shortest period any factory operated was 19 days, the Andover factory in the month of July, making 850 lbs. The least amount of cheese made was by the East Jefferson factory—one of the first organized in the State—which produced only 5,954 lbs in a season of nearly two months from 150 cows. The managers of the Houlton factory shew wisdom in extending the making season over as long a period as possible, as by this course came a largely increased profit over running the factory for a short season only. The following are the names of the factories from which returns have been received in 1877, and the number of pounds of cheese made by each:—

NAMES.	POUNDS.
Andover,	805
Aroostook Valley,	17,622
Carmel,	21,531
East Jefferson,	5,9 4
Exeter,	26,915
Etna,	19,293
East Rumford,	14,099
Fryeburg,	9,818
Houlton,	42,187
Kenduskeag,	26 931
Morrill,	9,001
Milo,	15,340
Newport,	12,861
North Turner,	35,003
North Jay,	25,724
Phillipps,	15,300
St. Albans,	23 817
Sandy River,	18,861
Six Mile Falls,	6,984
Union,	15,237
Wilton,	12,675
Winthrop,	35,009
West Minot,	19,739
Winterport,	14,856

Among the interesting details which the returns from the above factories shew, is that very nearly the entire amount of the cheese made has already been sold, mostly at local markets, and in no instance below 11 cents per pound the price obtained ranging from 11 to 15 cents (for fancy make green cheese), the average price being 12 1-2 cents per pound. In one instance only is a place out of the State reported as being the place of sale, that of the Houlton factory, whose market is Boston. It would be a good thing for the dairymen, at the approaching session of their association, to devise some plan, if possible, whereby accurate and reliable returns from all factories in the State may be obtained and made public.

Editorial Notes.

Attention is called to the notice of the annual meeting of the Maine Dairyman's Association and the perfected railroad arrangements for the same, which appears in our column of intelligence. In order to obtain the reduced rates over the Grand Trunk Railway, it is necessary for parties to show a certificate of membership in the Association which may be obtained of J. W. Lang, Esq., the Secretary, Brooks. Annual membership $1; life membership $5.

We surrender a large amount of our space this week to the favors of our correspondents, and have still a large number on hand. Be patient friends, you shall all have a hearing—and on no account, ever withhold your communications. Next to dollars from delinquent subscribers, newspaper men rejoice in articles for publication from friends and correspondents, new and old. Send them along!

Communications.

For the Maine Farmer.

A Contribution to the History of Orcharding in Maine.

A large portion of the pioneer settlers in Kennebec county were energetic, enterprising farmers, well skilled in agriculture, and were from Middleborough, Bridgewater and other towns in eastern and southern Massachusetts. They brought with them apple seeds selected from the hardiest and best fruit and planted them in nurseries on moist, mellow shoal soil, at the foot of hills, where all trees and apple trees as well, grow with spreading roots, tap roots, being unnecessary to draw a supply of water. Thus they were easily removed with all their long fibrous roots to higher land, suitable for orcharding.

I have the history from tradition of a small nursery, planted on a farm by the first settlers of Winthrop nearly a century ago. About twenty years after (80 years ago) my father, Isaac Smith from Middleborough, Mass., bought the farm. All the seedling trees of this nursery had been carefully removed ten years before, a part of which had been planted on an acre and a half of good orchard land, near the house and barn, having an eastern cant. The balance of the trees sold to various parties in town and planted on the beautiful hillsides of good old Winthrop. The seed of those old orchards, being selected from the very best eating and cooking apples, both sweet and sour or sub-acid—consequently the fruit was all very choice.

As like begets like, the orchards of Winthrop have originated and brought to the notice of the public, four as good hardy autumn seedlings as can be found in the State, viz.: Winthrop Greening, Moses Wood, Smith's Favorite and Fairbank's Apple; all of these should be more widely disseminated, especially the latter and are far superior to any of the Russian varieties grafted on crab stocks, which in my opinion is another humbug being practiced on the farmers of Maine. The Russian apples are handsome, which is their only good quality. They are coarse and are in eating only about a week, save the Alexander, and are ripe at a time in the fall when the markets are glutted with fruit of a far superior quality like the Porter and Winthrop Greening, and the others above mentioned, and others too numerous to mention, that are as hardy and are in eating from six to eight weeks, thus rendering them profitable to the grower, market-man and consumer; while the limited demand for the Russians will render them unprofitable like the crab apple, other than for making into cider. Nurserymen of Maine should select their seed for growing seedlings from the hardiest varieties like the Northern Spy, Tolman's Sweet, Yellow Bellflower, and the Winthrop seedlings. All the above sorts are as hardy as the Russians or the crab apple.

The pioneer farmers of Winthrop and the State as well, were very little versed in the art of grafting or budding trees and it was thought to require as much skill to set a scion and have it grow as to amputate an arm or leg. Seventy or seventy-five years ago the fall fruit of those old orchards was made into cider and the winter fruit carefully stored in the cellars, till winter. Then these energetic farmers would load up their pungs in the winter, the day before, with a barrel of cider and the balance in apples, and start a little past midnight for Farmington and Wilton, facing the cold northwest, and arrive there about sunrise. The cider would sell at from $6 to $8 per barrel and apples at one dollar per bushel in exchange for wheat at a dollar per bushel and get it ground at the mill and return home the same day, and the next day deliver and sell it in Augusta and Hallowell for cash or in exchange for goods.

About this time the brothers Charles and Benjamin Vaughan came from England and settled on a farm in the Kennebec valley, near the town of Hallowell and being gentlemen of intelligence and much interested in orcharding and general agriculture, they brought apple seeds, as well as the pear, plum and the English cherry seeds, selected from the best fruit of England, and planted a large nursery on their farm, and budded and grafted many of the trees and taught others to graft and bud. Many of these trees were brought and planted in orchard form in Winthrop and in the towns in the Kennebec valley. Undoubtedly the King Sweeting (or Sidney Sweet) and many other good varieties had their origin from this source.

Now then, we may all learn some lessons from the above facts and history, that may serve to teach us not to plant our nurseries with seeds from the pomace of refuse Baldwins and like tender sorts; but from the hardiest, best winter varieties, like the Northern Spy, Tolman's Sweet, Yellow Bellflower, &c., and then, if properly grown and suitably planted in orchards, kept in garden culture and when large enough graft or bud them in the branches with hardy, annual, winter sorts, suitable for our markets and exportation; and annually fed with elements suitable for growth and fruit, we shall have success and I think in no other way.

I will only add, that we might experiment with scions (taken from such nurseries as the above, grown from the best hardy winter sorts) and graft with the scions a few stocks in the tops of bearing trees, whose fruit is not valuable and thus perhaps obtain valuable winter seedlings adapted to this State and climate. The scions would dwarf and bear the second year after grafting. A. SMITH.

Monmouth.

For the Maine Farmer.

Matters for the Consideration of Dairymen.

According to United States statistics, based on returns of ninth census, it appears that in 1870 there were one hundred and thirty thousand, two hundred and fifty cows in Maine; the product of which, was eleven million six hundred and thirty-six thousand, four hundred and eighty-two pounds of butter; one million one hundred and fifty-two thousand and four hundred pounds cheese; and of milk sold, one million, three hundred and seventy-four thousand and ninety-one gallons. If we estimate two pounds cheese to represent one of butter, and that three gallons of milk will produce one pound of butter, we have a total of twelve million, six hundred and seventy thousand, seven hundred and sixty-two pounds per cow. This computed at twenty-five cents per pound—a high estimate for 1877—amounts to $3,167,690 50, or $24 25 per cow.

Nor is Maine the only New England State in which the dairy interest is in so deplorable a condition. On the same basis New Hampshire averages only seventy-nine and Rhode Island eighty-six pounds per cow, and the average for the New England States is only ninety-eight pounds. To show the difference between the average New England, and a well bred dairy cow, I will give the record of five small dairies, owned in Winthrop, consisting in the aggregate of twenty-two cows, and eight two years old heifers; the heifers coming into the dairy, on an average, about the middle of May.

These dairies are composed of thoroughbred Jersey animals, and have produced during the year 1877, seven thousand, six hundred and ninety pounds of butter, which has been sold at an average price of thirty-four cents per pound, amounting in the aggregate to $2,604 60, or two hundred and fifty-six and one-third pounds of butter per cow and heifer, bringing in the market $87.80. I will here say these dairies were not selected because they were the best in town, but because, so far as known to me, they are the only thoroughbred Jersey dairies in Winthrop of which a correct record has been made.

It will be noticed that no mention was made in census returns, of milk used in families of dairymen, hence to be fair, no estimate has been made of milk used in families of the Winthrop dairyman. I trust the above showing will need no further illustration or comment to make plain the lesson which it teaches. N. R. PIKE.

Winthrop.

For the Maine Farmer.

Notes from Knox County.

The Camden Flour Mill,

at Camden Harbor, has been running some three months, day and night, grinding from fifty to sixty bushels of wheat—all home grown—per twenty-four hours. This mill which is run by J. A. Porter & Sons, is furnished with a set of Burr stones and all the modern improvements for making No. 1 flour. It is estimated that up to Jan. 1st, they had ground about 3000 bushels, and grists enough waiting to aggregate some 4000 bush. One neighborhood grist of 150 bushels was received from Brooksville some weeks since. About three thousand bushels of the crop of 1876 were ground at this mill. Probably more than twice as much of the crop of 1877 will be ground, and this where none was ground five years ago, and from a territory where almost none was raised. Almost every farmer with whom I talk is intending to sow more wheat another spring than heretofore.

J. W. Storer of Camden, has a farm of 150 acres on a high ridge of land, well adapted to hay and grain growing. Mr. S. is a young man who is earnestly interested in farming, and is making marked improvements on his farm. Eight years since his farm cut some twelve tons of hay, and now cuts more than twice as much. He is smoothing his fields, putting the surplus stones into drains where they are most needed, and intends to top dress, he has spread some seventy-five loads the past fall. He has done quite a business in garden farming, hauling dressing from the village in return for garden sauce and hay taken from the farm. He raised forty bushels of wheat last year.

A hurried call was made upon James Blood and Son who were busily engaged hauling big rocks from a piece of spongy land, which was not frozen sufficiently to have prevented ploughing, though it was the last week in December. Their team was a nice pair of grade Durham cattle, that girth 7ft 2in, and seemed very much inclined to haul whatever was hitched to them. These cattle took the first premium as draft cattle at the Knox County Fair last fall. Mr. B. showed me a fine chamber of corn of a small early variety, sound and well filled. Their crop of wheat was something over thirty buehels.

A. H. Howard of Camden, called my attention to a sample of Compton's early field corn grown from seed obtained of J. J. H. Gregory of Marblehead. It is a large twelve rowed variety, originated from seed on the blossom branches of which Mr. H. has a very favorable opinion.

W. J. Robbins of Camden, keeps some twenty cows, having one of the best milk routes in Rockland. He has a fine looking herd, eight of which, all cherry red, took the first premium at the last Knox county show. Everything about his premises is as "neat as a pin;" his cows being as clean as well groomed horses. Mr. R. makes hay a specialty, with corn and oats for fall fodder.

Otis A. Fisk of Camden has a good hay farm, on which he keeps some twenty cows running a milk route into Rockland. Mr. F. keeps cows for the profit, and don't intend to keep them many months unless they pay well for their feed. He has some cows that he has fed four or five years that are still doing well.

Entertainment for a night was found in the family of G. B. Ingraham of Camden, where the "MAINE FARMER man" always finds a kindly welcome, and where he never fails to find his money ready for him. Mr. I. formerly kept some fifteen or eighteen cows, running a milk cart to Rockport and Camden Harbor villages. He now has some five or six fine looking grade Durham cows from which he is getting nice stock, and sixty grade Leicester and South Down sheep, with which he is this season using a Leicester buck, which is said to have sheared some ten or twelve pounds of washed wool. He intends to keep a flock of one hundred, believing that such a flock of good sheep will be more profitable than twenty cows. His tillage land is a smooth loamy soil, but he has a big range on the side of a mountain, just the chance for a sheep pasture. Mr. Ingraham has a Kentucky mare seventeen years old, smooth and sound as a colt, from which within seven years he has raised six colts all but one from the Knox stallion Gen. Warren, owned by E. W. Anderson of Warren. They are a nice lot of colts, showing the peculiar traits of the Knox stock. Two of the colts have been sold to good advantage, and if more of them had been disposed of, no doubt in this, as in many other cases, the margin of clear profit would be greater than it has been, and possibly than it ever will be. The six years old has made very good time on a track that Mr. Ingraham has built on his farm for training purposes, and is a powerful moving animal, as your correspondent had an opportunity of knowing from a pleasant drive after him kindly proferred by Mr. I.

Larkin Thorndike of Camden has forty-five good sheep, including six nice Leicester lambs and a buck said to have sheared twelve pounds of washed wool, which he bought in Aroostook county last fall.

C. S. A.

For the Maine Farmer.

The First Factory made Cheese in America.

Although Mr. Jesse Williams of Rome, N. Y., has been generally considered the father of the system of associated dairying in this country, I wish to put in a prior claim to this honor in behalf of Elder John Leland, which I condense from an account of the affair given in his biography.

In the contest for President in the fall of 1800 between the rival candidates, Adams and Jefferson, Elder John Leland, one of the greatest pulpit orators of those days, was a staunch supporter of Jefferson. Politics ran high, Puritan pulpits launched their thunderbolts against Jefferson, the great democrat leader, charging him with being an infidel of the French revolutionary school. In the town of Cheshire among the hills of Massachusetts, a counter voice of great power was lifted up from his pulpit against the flood of obliquy that roared against Jefferson. This was Elder Leland one of the most extraordinary preachers in those stirring times, and he preached such stirring Jeffersonian Democracy to the people of Cheshire, that for generations they never voted anything but the democratic ticket. Jefferson was elected and no man had done more to secure his election than Elder John Leland. He then resolved to set the seal of Cheshire to the election in a way to make the nation know that there was such a town in the republic. He proposed to his large congregation on the Sabbath, and earnestly invited every man or woman who owned a cow to bring in all the milk given on a certain day to a cider mill owned by Capt. John Brown. No Federal cow was allowed to contribute a drop of milk lest it should leaven the whole lump with a distasteful flavor. With their best Sunday clothes on, came the men and boys of the town down from the hills and up from the valleys with the milk. Mothers, wives and all the rosy maidens of those rural homes came in their white aprons and best dresses to the sound of the church bell, that called all to this great cooperative cheese manufactoring. An enormous hoop had been prepared and placed upon the bed of the cider press. Into this was placed the curd. All was now ready for the *coup de grace* of the operation.

The young men turned the long levers, the machinery worked to a charm. It was a complete success. When the cheese was well cured it weighed sixteen hundred pounds. They waited till the approach of winter, and the Mammouth cheese was then placed on a sleigh, and Elder Leland took the reins, driving the entire distance from Cheshire to Washington—full five hundred miles. Arriving in Washington, Mr. Jefferson received him in state, and the big cheese was duly presented and speeches suitable to the great occasion made.

A deep golden wedge was cut from the cheese and served with bread and ale in the presence of heads of the Departments, Foreign Ministers, and many other eminent persons. It was highly complimented for its richness and flavor, and was universally pronounced the most perfect cheese ever presented to the White House.

This brief history of the first cheese made by the associated system of dairying though leading to no practical application of the system, is of itself interesting as a practical demonstration of the loyalty of the rural population of that little town of Cheshire to Jeffersonian Democracy in those stirring times. H. L. LELAND.

East Sangerville.

For the Maine Farmer.

The Best Breed of Cattle.

For a long time I have been perfectly disgusted with my scrub stock. And a few years ago I came to the determination that I would have something better or none at all. Accordingly of course my mind was severely exercised about the breed; and this fact was exceedingly intensified in consequence of there being no thoroughbreds near me, so that I could judge understandingly of their respective merits. But I must not omit here to say that some three years ago (after I was under conviction) Mr. Levi Marshall, living in the extreme part of our town seven miles from me, purchased of the late Hon. Warren Percival a Shorthorn bull out of Red Lady, being the first Herdbook animal that was ever brought into our town.

I at first tried to better myself by taking my cows to a thoroughbred Hereford bull, away in an adjoining town. I found after a few years trial that was not what I wanted. They completely fill the eye, but their dispositions and milking qualities are not what I am or was satisfied with. They are vicious, breechy and very disagreeable to handle. I had four of them—two steers and two heifers; one of the heifers I was obliged to sell for beef because I could not keep her anywhere I wanted to. The others by the aid of blind boards and pokers I can just make out to manage. I put brass balls upon all their horns, but with this protection I do not allow any weaker animals turned into the yard with them. Then I thought perhaps the Holsteins were what I wanted, but did not try them, for right here I came to the conclusion that it would never do to flounder thus blindly about, and like "Obadiah Olebuck" betook myself to study. Everything that I had in the shape of reports, or that came to me in the agricultural papers—among which I highly prize the MAINE FARMER—or that I could find in my neighbors' libraries or files bearing upon the subject uppermost in my mind was carefully perused and considered. After summing everything up I found that the balance of testimony was in favor of the Shorthorns. Shortly after this decision was reached, came the announcement through the FARMER that the Hon. Warren Percival of Vassalboro would have an auction sale of Shorthorn Herd-book animals at his place, Nov. 30th. 1876.

I attended the sale and bought a cow by way of experiment. I found the qualities she possessed were just what I wanted, and last fall I bought another of Mrs. Percival, taking my choice of the herd without regard to price. I selected 2d Beauty 4th, 5 years old last November. When I bought her the 17th of last October she was thin in flesh in consequence of the drought which was very severe in that part of the State last summer, and also as they told me be cause she gave a great quantity of milk. When I took her home she gave four quarts of milk per day. I thought I would dry her immediately and give her a chance to flesh up before she calved, for she was down in the dairy of Mrs. Percival's foreman as served by Rusticus March 20th, 1877, and as she dropped me a very nice bull calf Jan. 5th, 1878, the record was correct. Well I commenced the process of drying, but soon found it was more of a job than I had anticipated. Dry her I could not on grass or hay for I was obliged to milk her every week two or three times till she calved. And now she proves herself to be a wonderful milker, doing as well as the foreman and the other men and neighbors who milked her told me she would. I am entirely satisfied.

And now comes to me a postal telling me there will be another auction sale of Shorthorns at the Percival Homestead, Jan. 30th. Whoever buys will get his money's worth, for remember the cows that are with calf were served by Rusticus, and he was imported from England in the celebrated cow Seraphic, by Augustus Whitman of Fitchburg, Mass. He is made up of very valuable strains of blood among which is that of the Seraphina. By referring to the MAINE FARMER of September, 15th, 1877, you will see that the fancy herd of Shorthorns, exhibited by W. S. Slater of Webster, Mass., at the New England and State fair last fall has this same strain of blood, together with that of the Princess Gwynne.

Charleston. A. W. KING.

For the Maine Farmer.

Inquiries of a Correspondent.

I am not a farmer, and have not studied the farming department of your paper much, or I should have been better posted in the questions I am about to ask. The fact is, we are away up here in the North,—came here for lumber and have followed it thoroughly until our lumber is all gone. Our farms are badly run down, and with these facts before us, we begin to think of that old field that we have mowed so many years, the hay from which has been hauled into the woods, until, instead of clover and herds grass, we have only poverty weed, daisies and moss. Now we want the sympathy and instruction that the farmers of our State know so well how to give. In the first place, can we plow those old fields in the spring, sow them to clover, and get a crop to turn under; or would it be better to summer fallow, and sow in the fall? And would it be better to subsoil such lands? Is there not better soil below, if we will dig for it? We have a good bed of muck along the margin of a little brook which runs through a swamp, and it seems most like decayed vegetable matter. Will it pay to haul it on the grass land this winter, and spread in the spring? If you or some of your numerous correspondents will answer the above questions, you will confer a favor.—[We hope some of our correspondents will answer the above enquiries. Meanwhile we offer just a word on one or two points: Our correspondent must not be too anxious to sub-soil or dig up his bottom soil provided it is light and porous, or if he is somewhat deficient of manure. If he has made up his mind that some such treatment as this is a good one for the nature of the soil in question, it must be deepened gradually or turned up a little at a time. If the deposit of muck is washed or soaked by the running brook it will be of little value as a fertilizer. It is not advisable generally to use muck raw as a top dressing. The better mode is to let it season or dry one summer after being dug, used as an absorbant and then put into the compost heap. Let us hear from our writers upon these and other points.—ED.] READER.

North Amity,

For the Maine Farmer.

On Surveying.

We assent to all the remarks of Mr. Wellington, especially the pay we receive for our services. We have owned a Transit these twenty years, and have used no "surveyor's compass" all that time. We wish to run *straight* lines, not curves, which last are not called for in our business. Alloth has the faculty of shining mostly by *daylight*, when on the meridian above the North Star, and when *above* it, it is too high for correct observation. The North Star itself is full high for the compass sight and plumb line. We want the State standard to regulate all our whims and ignorance, and to compel a steadiness and uniformity of action among all *land surveyors*, who for years yet to come must and will use the Surveyros' Compass. Whenever we wish to run curves, of course this instrument is laid aside; but at present we claim to be only a land surveyor and not a Civil Engineer. A. J.

Wiscasset.

For the Maine Farmer.

Penobscot County Farmers' Club.

Digest of the Recent Conversation on Growing Corn.

Corn has been raised in the county since it was settled, the average being rather over than under 50 bushels to the acre. Corn was raised in the cold summer of 1816—not extra good but it was corn—David Brown, Hampden.

In 1817 all the farmers planted corn; some as much as a bushel. That season Maine raised all the corn she needed. This crop could not have had much manure. Good corn can be grown on plaster alone.—E. Sproule, Veazie.

The last season has been hard for most crops, but every farmer who has raised corn has had success. There is a loss in planting corn too far apart or raising beans with corn.—Stephen Chase, Carmel.

The planting of the best seed and that called good, appears to make a difference of thirty bushels to the acre. Therefore it is expensive using any but the best seed.—Chas. Copeland, Holden.

The time to plant corn is when the leaves of the birch are the size of a mouse's ear.—Old Indian legend.

A corn crop leaves the land in much better condition than potatoes.—Several members.

One eight and one twelve rowed ear will sometimes grow on the same stalk. When corn suckers most there is the best corn. A good ear is often found on suckers.—S. Chase.

Manure should be applied broadcast. Corn is the surest and one of the most profitable crops we can raise.—Unanimous opinion.

The greatest reported yield was at the followiig rate per acre: Charles Copeland, Holden, 167 bush.; E. Gregory, Hampden, 144; T. J. Chase, Orrington, 140; Hebron Luce, Bangor, 120.—H. M. Smith, R. H. Hunt, J. E. Shaw, Committee.

Exception was taken to this report by Col. Hinks of Orrington who claimed that the corn was over-estimated. The committee allowed 80 lbs. of ears to make 56 lbs. of dry shelled corn.

The greatest yield reported outside the State is that of the Salisbury Club of Bucks Co., Pa., of 11 farms whose respective yield was 154, 139, 137, 144 1-2, 112 1-4, 111 1-2, 108, 102 3-8, 98 1-4, 98 bushels.—Ohio Farmer.

A good corn crop can always be raised by plowing and manuring six cords per acre, in the fall, with harrowing and a little compost in the hill in the spring. The fodder well preserved pays all the bills. A good crop can be raised by plowing green sward in the spring.—Mr. Wa. d. Eddington.

A little frost does not hurt corn after it is up. In a few days it will be all right.—Stephen Chase.

One bushel of New England corn on the ear is worth a bushel of shelled western corn.—Journal of Chemistry.

Mr. Stephen Chase of Carmel has raised corn for forty years and never had a failure. At every meeting of the club he has endeavored to get the farmers to try a piece. He says he *knows* they can raise corn cheaper than they can buy it. Corn can be raised on a variety of soils; from clay to sand.

South Orrington. J. W. WELLINGTON.

For the Maine Farmer,

A Short Sermon.

Text—"Should old acquaintance be forgot?"

Some time has passed since I wrote a word for the FARMER; and as I have a spare moment I will try to set your readers thinking of old acquaintances. Would it not be well for us if we did but remember or recall scenes of "ye olden tyme," that we might tell it to the generation following? Have we not heard our fathers or grandsires tell some little story that set our minds at work, especially when it related to the customs of those days when potatoes were twelve and one-half cents per bushel? The huge open fireplace, with its back log, half a yard through, and its fore stick one foot in diameter, piled above with the cleft rock maple, told every one that wood was cheap. Did not the flames roar up the chimney? Yes. And when we gazed up after them, as we stood at the end of the "fire log," we saw the stars looking down the chimney. Our uncles, then, sold wood in your streets dear FARMER, for $1.25 cts., per cord; and 62 cents of it went to pay for such an handkerchief as ten cents will buy in these days. Now reader, set your mind at work a little, and you will say times have changed! Yes; but there were *farmers* in those days; and we ought to praise God that they were wise enough to abide in the calling. I am now writing on the table of one such; a man who has seen eighty-four winters, but their chilling blasts have not cooled his love for the MAINE FARMER, although he does not remember when he first took it. Two of his sons, are present with their wives, while the little ones play like lambs, on their father's knee. To my questions in regard to the MAINE FARMER, the old gentleman said: "I've *always* taken it, as the crop is reported very large everywhere, they must be a drug in the markets. Now let me say to farmers who have not had experience in fattening cattle with potatoes, that having fed out large quantities, I consider them fully equal to corn meal, only it requires more bulk to be given.

I once purchased two growthy two year-old steers, six feet in girth, for $75; and potatoes being very low, fed them all they would eat three times per day, with good English hay, just three months; and shipped them to Brighton market. Their girth was seven feet, and they sold in the market for $200, a price equal to any Western steer of the same weight; and it proved a profitable operation.

I purchased some days ago a pair of two-year-old steers for $100, paying the grower his price. They measured six feet five inches and were fat, and I found it a lucrative trade. I have purchased in some towns two steers with just as good frames and build, but poor, for just half of the above amount and lost money on them.

One hundred bushels of potatoes and one ton of good hay would have made the last pair as good as the first. The farmer would have sold his produce well, and at home; would have increased the fertility of his farm, and avoided hauling his potatoes away at twenty-five cents per bushel, as people have got to do in my opinion.

I notice a marked difference between cattle shipped from Vermont and New Hampshire. Their cattle come to market well ripened off; and northern drovers can compete with western, while we "Down Easters" are obliged to take back seats.

Now farmers of Maine, if we do not stop selling our cattle in so poor a condition that they are almost worthless, and shipping off our hay and potatoes, we shall be under the necessity of leaving our farms and once more letting them grow up to forests.

Burnham. J. C. LIBBY.

For the Maine Farmer.

A Heavy Bill for Damages!

In the FARMER of Dec. 27th, I saw a communication from the pen of D. H. Thing on Jersey stock, and in that article I think Mr. Thing has hit the nail on the head with only one false blow. He says: "I know an average Jersey is a great deal better than an average cow of other breeds heretofore common among us." Now, so far as my experience goes a Durham or grade Durham cow is better and by far more profitable than the Jersey. She will raise a calf worth from $10 to $25, while in milk, and will make from seven to fourteen pounds of butter per week if well fed. Good farmers give it as their opinion that the introduction of the Jersey stock into this State is not less than one hundred thousand dollars damage to the stock growing interests of Maine. An old farmer and wife while looking at the stock at the State Fair two years ago last fall, took a look at the Jerseys, and the wife enquired, pointing to some Jersey cows, "What are those?" On being answered that they were Jerseys, she replied, "I would not have such ill-looking creatures on the farm."

Anson. S. W. TINKHAM.

For the Maine Farmer.

Notes from Piscataquis County.

While passing the night with Mr. J. M. Hewett of East Dover, who is one of the enterprising young farmers of that place, I was highly pleased to find him so deeply interested in improved farming and stock raising. He is also a successful corn and wheat grower, and tells me he does not fail to raise his own bread every year. He has brought his farm under a high state of cultivation by the use of muck and other absorbents, thereby saving all the liquid manure. Mr. H. believes—in which many will agree with him—that more than half of the manure from many farms goes to waste by the loss of the liquid portion, which is frequently seen running into ditches or gutters by the roadside; while the same parties are buying superphosphate or other manure to keep up the fertility of the land. Now I honestly believe if the same amount of money was spent in getting muck or some other absorbents to save all the liquid manure, and make it into a compost heap, adding to it ashes, lime, potash and some other material, that in ten years they may double the amount of manure, increase the value of the farm, and prove much more satisfactory than it would to use phosphate and have the other go to waste. I have talked with many practical, intelligent farmers, who have used the different kinds of artificial manures, and they have abandoned them as too costly for farmers generally to use.

While in Sebec I enjoyed the hospitalities of Mr. William Downs, where I always receive a cordial welcome, and from whose experience I gather many practical hints pertaining to farming, as Mr. D. has one of the best cultivated farms in Piscataquis county, and is considered one of the best farmers, which fact I am ready to believe, after looking into his barns, at his cattle and sheeps and over his well cultivated fields. I can only wish there were more just such men, who make farming a life study, as well as business. Mr. Downs' farm contains some four or five hundred acres. Much of the land under cultivation is a hard, sterile soil, and has been brought to its present high state of cultivation by thorough tillage and a liberal amount of barn-yard manure. Mr. Downs told me that he uses every year about one hundred loads of muck, which he adds so much to his stock of manure. He does not allow any waste of liquid, neither from his barn or house, using absorbents in every place where there can be a shovel full of dressing made. He is one of the most successful corn growers in Maine, raises from five to six acres every year.—This year his crop yielding him about sixty-five bushels per acre. He does not believe in planting beans nor any other crop with his corn, and thinks one crop enough to raise at one time. He believes in clean cultivation and practices it in every department of his farming.

Mr. G. B. Merrill of Sebec showed me some of the handsomest traces of corn, grown on his farm last year, that I have ever seen. He tells me that he raised at the rate of eighty bushels per acre. These facts speak loudly to the farmers of Maine. We can and ought to raise our own bread. And I am glad to see the renewed interest among the intelligent farmers in this direction. This I am told is largely due to the course of the MAINE FARMER last spring in stimulating farmers to plant and sow that "extra half acre," which is proving true the old adage, that "where there is a will there is a way." J. P. C.

For the Maine Farmer.

On Feeding Cattle for the Market.

As I see my next week's shipment of stock driven into my yards, an idea struck me so forcibly; that I concluded to place it before the farmers of Maine, through the medium of your excellent paper.

The farmers of Maine are doing a very unwise thing in selling their cattle in so unripe a condition, when they have the means at hand to have every ox or steer that is shipped out of the State as good as western beeve. The State of Maine has produced this season a large crop of potatoes that proves so far as Jackson Whites are concerned, to be very poor for table use, and as the crop is represented very large everywhere, they must be a drug in the markets. Now let me say to farmers who have not had experience in fattening cattle with potatoes, that having fed out large quantities, I consider them fully equal to corn meal, only it requires more bulk to be given.

I once purchased two growthy two year-old steers, six feet in girth, for $75; and potatoes being very low, fed them all they would eat three times per day, with good English hay, just three months; and shipped them to Brighton market. Their girth was seven feet, and they sold in the market for $200, a price equal to any Western steer of the same weight; and it proved a profitable operation.

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Anson. S. W. TINKHAM.

For the Maine Farmer.

Cultivation of the Grape.

II.—Prolificness of the Vine.

As wild grape vines are known to bear fruit without pruning or cultivation, it is often said that those planted by man need neither pruning or cultivation. It is true that grape vines, growing wild, will produce fruit, but very little compared to the cultivated and well trained vine. The wild vine produces loose and open bunches of grapes, generally thick skinned. But by cultivation, the bunches become compact, the skin is thinned, and the juicy pulp increased; but no art of cultivation has ever altered the natural flavor of the fruit. Nature seems to have kept this part of the business to herself. And it is well that she has; for by it one may know what wild vines to cultivate.

But to what extent vines will grow and bear fruit, the farmers of this State have yet to learn. From all that I have yet seen, they seem to think it is enough to let them grow in bundles up an inclined plane seven or eight feet. But Nature does not so teach. In the State of Ohio I have seen wild vines several feet in diameter at the but, ascending the largest and tallest chestnut trees to the height of seventy or eighty feet, without a leaf, until the top of the tree is attained, and then the branches of the vine filled the tops of surrounding trees to the number of seven or eight, shutting out the light below, like a cloud obscuring the sun. Taking the hint from Nature, I had occasion in New Jersey to shade the sidewalk to a dwelling house, about eighty feet from a single grape vine which I conducted on wires to the scaffold over the sidewalk, and in the opposite direction I extended another part of the same vine about seventy feet, and at a right angle to this, by other wires. It was extended sixty feet.

Here were not less than 210 feet of main vines, to say nothing of the multitudes of leading laterals that spread in the three directions; and as to the fruit it bore, it was in proportion to the extent of vine. Astonishing as it may

Maine Farmer.

Augusta, February 9, 1878.

TERMS OF THE MAINE FARMER.

$2.00 IN ADVANCE, OR $2.50 IF NOT PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS OF DATE OF SUBSCRIPTION.

Postage Free to all Subscribers.

☞All payments made by subscribers will be credited on the yellow slips attached to their papers. The printed date in connection with the subscriber's name will show the time to which he has paid, and will constitute, in all cases, a valid receipt for moneys remitted by him.

☞A subscriber desiring to change his post-office direction or to discontinue his paper, must communicate to us the *name of the office to which it has previously been sent*, otherwise we shall be unable to comply with his request.

Collectors' Notices.

Mr. C. S. AYER will call upon our subscribers in Lincoln county during the month of February.

Mr. S. N. TABER will call upon our subscribers in East Kennebec during the month of February.

Mr. J. P. CLARK will call upon our subscribers in Waldo County during the present month.

Proposed School Legislation.

The committee on education in response to numerous petitions from school officers in various parts of the State, has reported a bill providing for the appointment of State Boards of School examiners for each of the counties, and the same is now pending before the Legislature. We have not seen the bill, but that portion which describes the manner of appointment, and defines the powers and duties of the board, as reported to the daily papers, is as follows:

The Governor and Council, on the recommendation of the State Superintendent of Schools, shall appoint three and not more than five persons in each county, as a board of examiners of teachers, whose term of office shall be three years unless sooner removed by the Governor. These examiners are to hold meetings in three or more places in each county, at such times and places as the State Superintendent directs, and at such meetings, those desiring to teach in the public schools shall present themselves for examination. The State Superintendent is to furnish the questions to be used in the examinations, and the examiners are to certify to the State Superintendent the rank obtained by each candidate, and are to fix the rank which shall entitle them to receive certificates. No person not in possession of one of these certificates shall, after June 1, 1878, be employed in any public school in the State, supported in whole or in part by State funds. Any town disregarding this shall forfeit from its State school funds a sum equal to the amount paid to all persons so employed.

These are the leading features of the bill which the Legislature is asked to pass and incorporate into the school laws of the State. It will be noticed that the bill proposes to place the control of all our public schools in the hands of the State Superintendent. The members of the county boards are to be nominated by him, he is to appoint their places of meeting, furnish them with questions and in brief, guide and direct them in all they do. It contemplates a uniform standard of qualifications, for the examination of a teacher is to be general and made with no reference to any particular school, and of course, those who receive the certificates of the board must be qualified to take charge of average schools. It follows also that the wages paid to teachers must be made as uniform as are their qualifications, for with equal proficiency in the required branches of study and in "methods" and "management," there can be no graduated scale of prices for teaching, and this will operate unfavorably—especially in our small and sparsely settled towns. There are many school districts in this State where, during the summer term, the number of scholars will not exceed half a score, and where the most advanced pupil is scarcely out of the primer, yet by employing a teacher at a moderate price because one not competent to teach advanced scholars, they are able to have a long and profitable term. Under the arrangement proposed by this bill, a first-class teacher must be employed in such schools, and at such high wages that the term must be short and of but little benefit. School officers in the rural districts, will fully appreciate this serious objection to the proposed change.

We understand very well the reasons which are urged for this legislation, for we have heard them often; but legislation cannot be relied upon as a panacea for all our difficulties, whether in our school system or elsewhere. We cheerfully admit that progress has been made in our educational system in this State, in some important respects, and in bringing about needed reforms, we have always seconded the efforts of our State educational department, to the extent of our ability; but we are opposed to the provisions of this bill for reasons already stated and for others. It restricts the authority of town and district school officers, by limiting the number of teachers from which they can select, thereby rendering it impossible for them to grade their teachers according to the necessities of their schools. Its tendency is, more and more, to centralize that authority to direct and manage our public schools, which belongs to the people in the towns and school districts, where, we believe, it should remain. The guardianship which they have heretofore exercised over them, tends to keep up their interest in them, and the more their authority is weakened the less interest they will have.

Nor do we feel sure that the proposed system will uniformly insure good teachers. Those who have the best book-learning are not always the most successful managers and instructors of youth. We have seen this exemplified time and again, but these are the ones who will carry away the certificates of the board. It may be answered that they will be examined in "methods," as well as to other necessary qualifications, but we do not presume the average county board will know all about the "methods" practiced in our so-called high-toned schools, nor does this term so flippantly used cover all the ground of successful school management. To be a successful teacher of youth requires aptitude, including a fair share of common sense, good judgment, evenness of temper and many other qualities which can not be acquired from books, and the possession of which can be ascertained only by actual experience in the school-room. The trial of teachers, therefore, who pass the board, is an experiment, and it is no more than that under the present system.

MAINE TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION. The regular meeting of the committee on instruction of the Maine Teachers' Association will be held in Augusta, on Friday and Saturday, Feb. 8th and 9th. During the first day the committee will visit the city schools and in the evening there will be a public meeting in the House of Representatives. Messrs. W. J. Corthell of Calais, A. W. Burr of Hallowell, A. H. Kelley of Belfast, B. Woodbury of Farmington, and others will discuss the question, "Examination of Teachers." Messrs. J. H. Hanson of Waterville, G. B. Files of Augusta, C. C. Rounds of Farmington, G. T. Fletcher of Castine and others, will discuss the question, "Preparation of Teachers." Messrs. Thomas Tash of Portland, A. J. Phipps of Lewiston, E. S. Morris of Biddeford and others, will discuss the question, "Basis of distribution of school money." The discussion of these very important subjects will be continued Saturday forenoon. All interested are invited to attend.

☞Wm. Arnold aged 35 years, while assisting in hoisting stone at the Hallowell Granite quarries, Monday was instantly killed by the falling of a derrick. He resided near the quarries, and leaves a wife and two children.

CITY NEWS AND GOSSIP. Wm. M. Thayer late of the Mansion House in this city has bought an interest in the Franklin House, Bangor, and took charge Monday. Thayer knows how to keep a hotel and in his hands the good reputation of the Franklin House will not suffer.——Wm. G. Kingsbury was convicted Saturday of keeping intoxicating liquors contrary to law, and was fined fifty dollars and cost. He appealed and recognized. Blake Harwood, Donald Harwood, Richard Nelson, Charles Warren and Charles Gault were sent to jail for drunkenness and for other offences.——The new Augusta band is preparing for a grand concert.——The Connor Cadets elected officers Friday evening.——The concert at the Free Baptist church Thursday evening was fully attended and was every way a success.——A little son of Judge True, while coasting ran his sled into a team, on Wednesday of last week and was quite severely hurt.——Sunday and Monday were beautiful days and would have been no discredit to the last of March.——The Free Baptist Society netted $140 from their course of lectures besides entertaining the public.——Candidates will not be wanting for the position of Judge of the Kennebec Superior Court. Wm. Penn Whitehouse and Gardiner Vose of Augusta are among the candidates.——The Legislative reception at the Augusta House on Tuesday evening was a very gay affair; over three hundred guests were present.——An annular eclipse of the sun occurred Saturday, and a partial eclipse of the moon occurs on the 17th.——Rev. E. W. Preble of Bangor will preach in the Universalist church next Sunday.

☞There was a sharp contest in the Legislature last week over the proposition to set off Hurricane Island to Vinalhaven and erect the same into a town; but the bill passed in the House by a decided majority, and will probably meet with little further opposition. Hurricane Island is situated four miles from the main land and communication with Vinalhaven is frequently dangerous and sometimes impossible. Before it was erected into a voting precinct, it was often impossible for the islanders to go there to vote. The petitioners claimed that they should have the benefit of their taxes for local use, instead of having them go to Vinalhaven, where they would receive no benefit from them. The remonstrants objected on the ground that the population of the island was only temporary, and depended entirely upon the operation of the granite quarries, and that a suspension of work would speedily depopulate the new town. But Gen. Tillson, the proprietor of the island, urged that the taxable valuation of the island was created by him, and by those claiming under him, and that the taxes should rightfully be expended for the benefit of those who paid them, and this view was entertained by a majority of the House. Mr. Moore, the member from Thomaston made an able argument against against the measure, while Mr. Curran of Calais, Col. Robie of Gorham and Prof. Young of Brunswick made effective speeches in its support. The debate was the most spirited and interesting of the session. The bill passed the Senate on Tuesday, after a brief discussion.

CITY AFFAIRS. There was a regular meeting of the Augusta City Council Saturday afternoon.

An order was passed authorizing the city treasurer to release and quit claim any and all right, title and interest which the city of Augusta has, or may have by reason of any sale of real estate of resident or non-resident proprietors, and which estate has been conveyed for any tax assessed thereon, upon the payment of the taxes, charges and interest by the party interested in such real estate.

Petition of E. W. Whitehouse, for reimbursement of money paid for property sold by auction for taxes the tax being erroneously assessed, was referred to the city Assessors, with the request to report at the next regular meeting.

Ed. G. Doe was licensed to keep and sell gunpowder.

The city treasurer reported that he had disbursed from March 19th 1877 to January 31 1878, the sum of $134,383.14.

☞At the adjourned annual meeting of the Maine State Assocition for the Protection of Fish, held Wednesday evening, at the Augusta House, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

President—W. S. Badger of Augusta.

Vice President—Sam'l E. Smith of Wiscasset.

Secretary and Treasurer—J. W. Clapp of Augusta.

Executive Committee—W. S. Badger of Augusta, Sam'l E. Smith of Wiscasset, C. B. Hazeltine of Belfast, J. H. Kimball of Bath, Prof. S. J. Young of Brunswick.

Hon. Theodore Lyman of Boston, one of the Fish Commissioners of Massachusetts, was elected an honorary member of the association.

☞On Wednesday of last week Hon. Theodore Lyman, one of the Fish Commissioners of Massachusetts, by invitation of the Maine Association for the protection of fish, gave a very interesting and instructive lecture, in the Representatives' Hall, on the habits of shore and inland fish, and on the fishing interest in general. The Hall was well filled and the strict attention paid the speaker, shows the deep interest which is felt in this important subject by the people of Maine. The statement that young salmon put into the Merrimac river in 1872, returned this year in large numbers and full grown, was greeted with applause, as this fact is regarded as the commencement of a new era in the history of fish culture in this country.

☞The petitioners for a reference to the people of Oxford county, of the question of removal of the county seat from Paris to Norway, were granted leave to withdraw, by the Judiciary Committee. We have no interest in this purely local matter, but the proposition to submit the question to a popular vote, does not appear unreasonable, and when backed up by the names of so many of the voters of that county, it was entitled to the careful and candid consideration of the committee, which perhaps it received. The petitioners are not satisfied, and will probably continue their efforts until their point is gained or until they are discouraged by repeated defeats, and they are not the ones to be easily discouraged.

☞Joseph M. Soccalexis, the intelligent representative of the Penobscot tribe of Indians to the Legislature, having faithfully performed his work, returned to his home in Oldtown last week. He belongs to the progressive party of his tribe, and believes they should abandon hunting and fishing as their principal means of obtaining a living, and give their attention to agriculture. He desires that his tribe shall adopt such a course of living and training as will qualify them to become citizens of the United States, with all the rights and privileges thereunto belonging.

☞Mr. Chas. B. Dickman, son of the late Capt. Gustavus Dickman, a well-remembered ship-master of this city, was first officer on board the ill-fated steamship Metropolis, whose wreck on the North Carolina coast, with the loss of one hundred and fifty lives, is given in our columns, this week. We are glad to see his name recorded among the saved. He was the first to telegraph the loss of the steamer to the owners in New York.

☞We are indebted to the kind attentions of Hon. J. M. Addeman, Secretary of State of Rhode Island, for a copy of the Manual of that State for the year 1877-8. It is a fine specimen of typographical work and contains much statistical and other valuable information relating to that historic State.

KENNEBEC COUNTY ITEMS. Mr. Albion C. Clark, son of the late Alphonso Clark, former postmaster at Pittston for many years, has been appointed to the position filled by his father,——Wm. N. Fisher, file cutter of Waterville, committed suicide Friday by hanging. Cause unknown.——W. G. Brown, treasurer of Monmouth, came home Thursday. He says he shall be prepared to settle with the town in full when the accounts are made up.——George A. Russell of Readfield has been appointed Postal Clerk from Bangor to Boston, in place of W. F. Crawford, who has been dropped on account of injuries received at Seabrook last summer.——On Tuesday night week the stable of Mr. C. C. Hayden, on the river road in Winslow, was broken into, and a good harness stolen. Proceeding onward, the next sign of the thief was at the stable of Mr. Wm. H. Pearson, from which a sleigh robe was stolen. Let everybody else profit by the losses of these two men, by giving increased attention to fastening doors—stable, house and shed.——Frank A. Nolen has been appointed Postmaster at Fayette.——The Waterville *Mail* says that at the bankrupt sale, last week, the bank stock, (Waterville and People's) sold for $122; one half of Lyford Block, mortgaged for $1600, and subject to widow's dower, sold for $5; Morrill building, mortgaged for $5600, sold for $290; one-half of Herrick lot, mortgaged for $1500, sold for $1; share of the Noyes tract, subject to widow's dower, sold for $91 per acre.——We regret to learn that the Rev. J. O. Skinner of Waterville was stricken with paralysis while attending a funeral at Waterville, Sunday, and at last accounts, though partially conscious, was unable to speak.——The *Press* says that Mrs. Bessie Royal, wife of George Royal, section master of the Maine Central Railroad, committed suicide at Readfield depot on the 26th of January.——The *Reporter* says there is great activity on the Kennebec among the ice dealers. Sales were made last week at $1.25 to $1.50 and with all the street talk no contract has been closed as yet (the present season) above $1.50.——The *Reporter* says that Mr. Eben Hinkley of Gardiner, lost a valuable truck horse on Tuesday last. He got loose in the night and helped himself too freely at the grain chest.

☞Mr. John B. Abbott of Sidney has left with us a deed from Elisha Plaisted to Edmund Webber of Portsmouth N. H. conveying a lot of land in "Barwick," and executed Oct. 20th 1750. Also another deed of the same premises from said Edmund to his son John Webber, dated Apr. 30th 1767; also the will of said John Webber by which he gave to his son Joseph Webber the same premises. This Joseph Webber was the grandfather of Mr. Abbott's wife. These old papers are in a fine state of preservation, and as readable as when executed over a century and a quarter ago. Mrs. Abbott is one of the Webber heirs and hopes to share in the large estate which an ancestor is said to have left undisposed of.

☞Application will be made at the coming session of the Provincial Legislature for an act to incorporate the bondholders in the European & North American Railway Company for extension from St. John westward, under the name of "The St. John & Maine Railway Company," and to enable the company so incorporated to purchase the railway, property and franchise of the European & North American Railway Company, for extension from St John westward, mortgaged to secure the said bondholders at any sale of the same, and to hold such property and operate such railway when so bought.

☞A subscriber writes that he cannot see how Russian success in Turkey will interfere with England's route to India, and wonders why Great Britain is so jealous of Russia. This jealousy on the part of Great Britain, is due, not so much to the fear of having the route to India impeded, as of having India itself encroached upon by the Czar's government. For many years, Russia has been extending her dominions southward and eastward, and now only a narrow strip of territory separates British India from the Muscovite possessions. England fears that Russia may absorb Beloochistan and Persia, territory which she wants herself, and she regards Russia's success in Turkey as a menace to her possessions in India.

☞A bill has been reported to the Legislature from the Judiciary Committee, providing that county attorneys shall attend the law terms of the court and assist the Attorney General in criminal cases carried up from their respective counties. A similar bill received a black eye at the hands of the Legislature a year or two ago, and we trust this one may share the same fate. If it passes, it will increase the criminal expenses of the State, and in our judgment without any corresponding benefit. The law is well enough as it is. It is simply a bill for the benefit of county attorneys.

☞The fourth annual meeting of the Maine Dairymen's Association will be held at South Paris, Feb. 12-14th inst., in Andrews' Hall, with the South Paris Dairying Association. Meetings at 10 A. M., 2 and 7 P. M., daily. The railroads will make the usual reductions. This promises to be one of the best and most profitable meetings yet held by the Association. J. R. Nelson of Winthrop is President of the Association, and J. W. Lang of Brooks, Secretary.

☞Maine paid out last year for the support of education of deaf mutes, over nine thousand dollars, and the question of establishing an institution in this State is being agitated. The number of Maine pupils educated away was 42, enough certainly to make a respectable school. It is the settled policy of the State to assume the responsibility of educating this unfortunate class of our citizens, and if it can be done cheaper at home, such a school should be established by all means. It is mainly a question of dollars and cents.

☞Jeremiah Colburn, Esq., the oldest citizen of Orono, died Sunday, aged 85 years and 4 months. He was born and always lived in Orono, where he had raised a family of ten children, of whom two sons and five daughters are still living to mourn his loss. His grandfather of the same name, and one other, were the first white settlers of Orono, and in July, 1774, built the first house ever occupied by a white man in town. They also built there the first saw mill.

☞F. A. Morrill, who treated his adopted child so cruelly, was arraigned at Bucksport Wednesday, before Justice W. H. Pillsbury on the charge of "malicious assault." Hon. Geo. Peters appeared for the defence, and County Attorney Geo. P. Dutton for the government. Sheriff Devereaux and a large number of citizens were in attendance. Mr. Morrill waived examination and was bound over to the April term of court in the sum of $500.

☞We are indebted to the enterprising and reliable advertising agents, Geo. P. Rowell & Co., of New York, for a copy of the American Newspaper Directory, containing accurate lists of all the newspapers and periodicals published in the United States and Canada, with a description of the towns and cities in which they are published. It is a valuable work for reference

PATENTS. Patents have been granted Maine inventors as follows: J. H. Hodgdon, Gray, horse blankets: G. W. Damon, Brooks, lap-seats for wagons; J. H. Clark, Deering, shutter fastener; G. C. Eastman, Lewiston, carriage harness; C. L. Young, Newport, axes.

MAINE LEGISLATURE. In the Senate Wednesday Mr. Nash reported a bill to extend the time for locating and constructing the Piscataquis Contral railroad. Mr. Braggdon, from Committee on Education, on order, reported bill an act to amend chap. 11 of the revised statutes, in relation to the right of plantations to receive their proportion of the State school fund. Read and assigned. [Provides that every city, town and plantation shall raise and expend annually for the support of schools therein, not less than eighty cents for each inhabitant, exclusive of any other fund which said places may possess. The penalty for neglect in this respect shall be the forfeiting of not less than twice nor more than four times the amount of any deficiency; and such place, furthermore, shall receive no part of the State school fund apportioned to the several towns, for the year in which such neglect occurs.] A large number of other bills were read and assigned, and act authorizing the Portland and Ogdensburg railroad to issue preferred stock was passed to be engrossed.

In the House the Committee on elections made a final report and were discharged. Mr. Faught presented a bill to prevent fraud in commercial fertilizers. A bill was reported to amend and extend the acts in relation to the Wiscasset and Quebec Railroad Co., the Messalonskee and Kennebec Railroad Co., and the Somerset Railroad Co. The bill was laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

The act establishing a Superior Court in the County of Kennebec was amended and passed. The Committee on towns reported that they were unable to agree with regard to setting off Hurricane Island from Vinalhaven, five being in favor and five opposed. A motion to indefinitely postpone the whole matter was lost 50 to 62. The bill setting off the island was then passed to be engrossed and subsequently the vote was reconsidered, and the question discussed at length.

Thursday in the Senate a communication was received from the Attorney General, transmitting a report upon the claims of settlers under the Treaty of Washington, pursuant to a resolve of the Legislature, approved Feb. 9, 1877. Mr. Neally from the Conference Committee on the order relating to discontinuing the Agricultural College reported a disagreement; a similar report was made in the House. The Committee on Agriculture reported a bill to repeal the "dog law" passed last year, and the same was tabled.

In the House, leave to withdraw was granted the petitioners for aid to the Maine Central Institute. Petitions for a geological and mineralogical survey of the State were referred to the next Legislature, and this will be the end of the subject so far as the present Legislature is concerned. A bill was reported to abolish the office of crier in all the courts of the State. The bill to establish a bounty on bears was read once and tabled. The bill relating to the police force of the city of Portland was passed under a suspension of the rules. The Hurricane Island matter came up and after a prolonged discussion the bill setting of the island was again passed to be engrossed 85 to 55. The following acts were finally passed: to authorize the sale of the Union meeting house in Vassalboro', with the furniture and fixtures therewith connected; to make legal the doings of the North and West Auburn Cheese Co., in the city of Auburn; to make valid the doings of school district. No. 18, in the town of Gorham; to amend an act granting to Ransom B. Abbott the right to establish and maintain a ferry between Sullivan and Hancock; to amend sec. 32 of chap. 65 of the Revised Statutes, granting to guardians and trustees power to assign mortgages and mortgage debts; to change the name of Nancy S. Hubbard; to amend chap. 124 of sec. 18 of the revised statutes, relating to camp meetings; to amend sec. 32, chap. 4 of the revised statutes as amended by chap. 213 of the public laws of 1877, relating to elections; to amend sec. 2, chap. 106 of the revised statutes relating to lists and qualifications of jurors; to make valid the doings of Benj. True as a justice of the peace and quorum; to make valid the doings of the assessors of No. 6 plantation for the years 1876 and '77; to authorize the town of Hampden to receive money to keep in repair any cemetery in said town.

The Senate Friday voted to hold no session Saturday. A bill was reported to encourage the development of the mining interests of the State. [Provides that all mines of gold, silver or of the baser metals, which are now or may be opened and are in process of development in the State, may be exempted from taxation for a term of ten years from the time of opening. This does not relate to the land or surface improvement.]

A bill was reported providing for a State board of school examiners in each county; also a bill creating a lien on hemlock bark. Petitions for aid in building a bridge across the Androscoggin river at Dixfield were referred to the next Legislature with order of notice.

In the House, under a suspension of the rules, a bill was passed authorizing the Bates manufacturing company of Lewiston to reduce the par value of its stock and issue new shares. A resolve was reported laying a tax on the several counties of the State. A bill was reported and ordered printed requiring County Attorneys to attend the terms of the law court and aid the Attorney General in matters from their respective counties. Over sixty petitions against the pharmacy bill were presented from various parts of the State.

Saturday the Senate was not in session. The House ordered all Committees to report finally on or before February 8th, and passed an order providing for two sessions per day after that date. A bill was favorably reported to prevent the throwing of edgings and sawdust into Wiscasset river.

The Senate met Monday at 4 P. M. and went through with the routine business and adjourned. The House met at the same hour and in the absence of the Speaker, Prof. Stephen J. Young of Brunswick was elected Speaker pro tem.

Mr. Cutler, from the Committee on Interior Waters, reported ought to pass on bill an act relating to the building and maintaining a lock in the dam at Augusta. [Compels the owner of the dam to maintain a lock for boats, rafts, &c.]

On account of the lateness of the hour no business was transacted except to clear the table.

Tuesday was a very busy day in the Legislature, though the business was largely routine. A resolve appropriating $26,293 for the State Prison was reported in the Senate. Two reports are before the Senate on the Aroostook Senatorial question. Four of the Committee reported in favor of the sitting member and three in favor of the contestant. The bill setting off Hurricane Island was passed 22 to 3. Two reports have been made on the dog law one in favor of repealing the law of last year and the other opposed; both have been ordered printed. A large number of bills and resolves were advanced, and the bill establishing a Superior Court in the County of Kennebec was passed to be enacted.

In the House Woodbury of Houlton introduced an order looking to abolishing the office of Insurance Commissioner. Bill an act to incorporate the town of West Rockland was indefinitely postponed; also bill for restoring the bounty on bears. An act to vest the franchise and property of the Merrymeeting bridge in the inhabitants of Sagadahoc county, was discussed at length and passed to be engrossed.

The Legislature is now busily at work and a large amount of business is turned off at each session. It is thought that an adjournment can be reached by the last of next week.

ANOTHER TERRIBLE SHIPWRECK. Thursday evening at a little past six o'clock, the steamer Metropolis, from Philadelphia for Para, in Brazil, went ashore on Currituck Beach, three miles south of the light-house near Norfolk, Va., during the prevalence of the furious southeast gale. The day previous, the steamer started a heavy leak in the rudder case, and finding the pumps could not gain on it, the officers commenced to lighten by throwing over the coal, and at the same time bore away for Hampton Roads. At midnight the circulation pump gave out. At 3 a. m. a heavy sea boarded the vessel, carrying away the smoke-stack, boats, doors, forward saloon and letting in a large quantity of water below. The ship was completely unmanageable, and finding nothing could be done, the crew attempted to reach the beach to save what lives they could. At 6 o'clock they made the beach. The fires were out and the engine stopped. They set all head sail to drive on the beach. The surf was very rough. At four o'clock word was passed for all hands to prepare themselves with life preservers. At 6.45 the ship struck the beach. The steamer stranded and became a total wreck. The Metropolis was the second vessel despatched by contractors for the Madeira and Mamora Railroad, and took 250 laborers, 500 tons of railroad iron and special mails for Brazil. She was in command of Capt. Ankers and the wife and daughter of one of the contractors was on board.

The life saving station rendered no assistance except to assist those from the surf who swam or were washed ashore. In all, the steamer had 260 passengers and only about 150 were saved. The steamer was 879 tons and was rebuilt in 1871. She had one propeller furnished with a double engine and was brig rigged. She was insured in New York and the cargo was insured in Philadelphia. The owners are M. H. Simpson of Boston and C. W. Copeland and Lunt Bros. of New York. She was chartered specially to transport the laborers and material for a railroad, to Messrs. T. and P. Collins of Philadelphia, who were contractors for the railroad and their agent Mr. White in charge of the passengers. The opinion prevails that the vessel was unseaworthy and was overloaded.

☞A severe snow storm prevailed over a large area of territory last week, extending both south and west, and east as far as Boston. In Boston and vicinity, nearly 18 inches of snow fell, and the high wind which prevailed at the time, heaped it in huge heaps, blocking up the highways and railways and causing a temporary suspension of almost every kind of business. No train came through from Boston Friday, though the roads were cleared in season for the Pullman.

The Eastern railroad suffered severely by the storm. The wires were disarranged early in the day, resulting in a succession of accidents. A bad accident occurred at Revere. It appears that the train due to leave Salem at 6 A. M., for Lynn and Boston, left one hour late, with two engines and one snow plow. When passing over the Saugus marshes, the train was compelled to cut through many large snow drifts. When the train reached Floyd's bridge in Revere a monstrous snow drift was struck, which threw the snow plow into the air and off the track. The forward engine dashed under the snow plow and its smoke stack and cab were torn off and the engine thrown from the track, as was also the second engine and every car on the train. The engineers and fireman of both locomotives were tossed into the air. Both engineers were badly injured and one will die. The firemen were badly bruised but not seriously hurt. There were 75 to 100 passengers but none were injured.

☞On Thursday at Tenant's Harbor, the body of Mrs. Sarah Meservey, wife of Luther Meservey, was found in her house, with her hands tied over her head. The house was in confusion and her clothing badly disarranged. It is thought she must have been dead five weeks, as the house had the appearance of having been closed that length of time. She was a very quiet lady, and the neighbors supposed she had gone to Thomaston visiting. Her husband is a sea faring man, homeward bound from Vienna, Md. Robbery was unquestionably the motive that led to this fiendish deed. The robber was undoubtedly discovered while searching the house, and committed the murder to hide the robbery. The general opinion is that this horrible crime was perpetrated by a resident of St. George, and "with port erect," undiscovered, the murderer walks abroad to-day among his fellow men. Five weeks have elapsed since the murder was perpetrated, ample time to remove all traces of the contest from the person and clothing of the guilty party.

☞A young married woman named Addie W. Oakman whose husband resides in Bangor, Me., was passing along Courtland street, N. Y., Thursday partly intoxicated, when she was invited into a saloon by Christian Ohlant, who robbed and criminally assaulted her. Ohlant was held for examination and the lady detained as a witness.

In the police court, Friday, Ohlant was arraigned charged with attempted outrage on the person of Mrs. Oakman, wife of Frank C. Oakman, of Bangor. The plaintiff was not inclined to press the charge, but enough evidence was elicited by the judge to sustain it and Ohlant was committed for trial in default of $5000. Ohlant is a married man, but deserted his wife and children, leaving them in the hands of the city some time ago. The place where the attempted outrage took place is a resort of thieves and tramps. Mrs. Oakman was formerly Miss Gale of Boston, and it is said she and her husband separated on account of her intemperate habits.

DISASTERS TO MAINE SHIPPING. Sch. W. G. R. Mewry, Capt. Eaton, which went ashore at Head Harbor Jan. 10, arrived at Calais 31st, where she will haul out for repairs. She lost part of her keel and rudder, and chafed her planking.

Sch. Henry, with a cargo of pig iron, bound east, is ashore on Hog's Back, Hell Gate.

Sch. Jos. Farwell, of Rockland, which recently sunk near Hart's Island, has been raised and is to be taken to New York for repairs.

The schooner Kate E. Rich from Boothbay, lost foresail, two jibs and deck load, in the gale of the 31st.

Brig Etta M. Tucker which went ashore on Deal Beach, 31st, has broken up and is a total loss together with her cargo of coffee, which was valued at $80,000.

Sch. Eva C. Yates of Waldoboro, was crowded ashore at the lower end of City Island, 31st, but was hauled off without damage and anchored. A later report says she did not take ground.

☞Last Monday morning a serious accident occurred to Mr. Ed. Capen and son of Bethel, while chopping in the woods, by which the son was instantly killed, and the father so badly injured that when he got to the house he was unable to give any account of the matter. Parties immediately started for the woods and found the remains of the boy on the way, where the father had probably dropped him in his effort to get his body to the house.

☞The preliminary trial of Arthur Annett, at Dexter, for robbing the safe of the Eastern Express Company at that place, closed Thursday. After a long and patient hearing, both at Bangor and Dexter, continuing several days, before Judge Goodenow, Annett was convicted, and ordered to give bonds in the sum of $5000 for his appearance for trial at the March term of court at Bangor.

☞A correspondent of the Spirit of the Times writing from St. Johns, N. B., gives the following account of the wanderings of the stallion King William, during the year 1875. Our readers have already been made aware that a suit for the possession of the animal, is pending in the courts of New Brunswick, between George H. Bailey and John W. McDuffee, both well known horse men. It was during the preliminary trial of the case that the following facts were brought out. We quote from the letter:

"While McDuffee was on the stand, Mr. Bailey's counsel drew out from him the admission, that in the spring of 1875, King William had a public record of 2:31 1-4, and that while passing himself off as J. L. Mead, he entered the horse under the name of Anglo-Saxon, at Washington, D. C., May 5th and 7th, in two $500 purses, open to all horses that had never beaten 3:00 and 2:40; having won both these races, he next put in an appearance at Martinsburg, W. V., where he captured three purses in 3:00, 2:50 and 2:40 classes. In June he trotted and won with him at Parker City, Penn., purse $800, for horses that never beat 2:35. July 1st, at Sharon, Pa., he trotted and won two races; and July 3d, he trotted and won two more in the 2:34 class at Greenville, Pa. On July 13th he lost his first race of Toledo, O., being beaten in 2:43 3-4 by J. L. Crawford's roan gelding Sandhill. July 21st we find him at Chicago, Ill., entered in a $1,500 purse for horses that never beat 2:34, where, driven by William H. Crawford, he was beaten by Young Magna, after winning the second heat in 2:31 3-4. He next trotted July 29th, in the Grand Circuit Meeting at Cleveland, O., and was beaten by Lewinski in 2:27 1-4, 2:27 3-4 and 2:26 1-4.

The above races were all trotted under the name of Anglo-Saxon, after which he appears to have "wended his way down East," and we find him in September and October of the same year, trotting in races at Gardiner, and Portland, Me., and later at St. John, under his old name of King William. The horse has since trotted over several tracks belonging to the National Association, during the seasons of 1876 and 1877, and although he has been several times protested, he has managed to escape, until it has been proved by McDuffee himself, that he and the horse are both outlaws from the turf. The trial of this case bids fair to prove very interesting when reached by the Supreme Court, and is the first time a party has ever pleaded the gambling act to an honest note of hand in our courts. If it prevails here it will very much lessen the security in personal property hereafter, and as a test case will prove of interest to horse owners here, as well as in the States."

THE EASTERN WAR. The terms of peace between Russia and Turkey are substantially the same as we reported them last week. The independence of Montenegro, Servia, and Roumania is to be conceded, and the fortresses on the Danube and in Roumania are to be surrendered by the Turks. Turkey in Europe will hereafter be bounded on the north by the Balkans. Reforms are promised for Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Russians will hold Erzeroum, and some understanding concerning the navigation of the Dardanelles will be reached with the concurrence of the European powers. A money indemnity will be required of the Sultan, or a territorial equivalent, probably in Armenia. Other questions growing out of the war are to be referred to a conference of European powers. The advance of the Russians has been stopped and hostilities have ceased.

Greece has come in at the eleventh hour and declared war, and is making preparations to recover a slice of the shattered empire. Turkish troops have been sent forward, and the Turkish fleet, it is said under convoy of the British iron clads, is on its way to the Greek coast.

NEW ENGLAND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY. The annual meeting of this society was held in Boston Tuesday. The Secretary, Col. Needham, stated that last year's exhibition in Portland was the most successful the society ever held. A question being raised concerning the non-payment of a portion of the premiums of the last exhibition, Col. Needham stated that the Maine society were to pay all the premiums and that all of the money in the treasury had been paid out, and in addition quite a sum had been subscribed and used to pay bills not otherwise provided for. The matter was referred to the executive officers of the society and the trustees for the State of Maine. Hon. Geo. B. Loring was re-elected President, Col. Needham, Secretary, and Geo. W. Riddle, Treasurer. Among the Vice Presidents is John Hall of South Berwick. The following gentlemen were chosen trustees for the State of Maine:

Chas. J. Gilman, Brunswick; Rufus Prince, Turner; Enoch Knight, Portland; Moses H. Hussey, North Berwick; W. S. Tilton, Togus; Waldo T. Pierce, Bangor; Fred Atwood, Winterport; S. T. Holbrook, Oxford; N. R. Boutelle, Waterville; Seth Scammon, Scarboro; S. H. Tewksbury, Portland.

☞Samuel Bowles of the Springfield (Mass.) *Republican* died on Wednesday evening of last week. For a fortnight he had been growing weaker and some time ago his friends abandoned all hope. He was a hard-working and able journalist and his death in the prime of his intellectual powers, is deeply regretted. Strongly practical in all the affairs of life, Mr. Bowles was for years virtually the head and hands of his newspaper office, attending personally to the tedious details of work and discipline. He was his own hard task-master. Had he been more lenient toward himself, he might have lived to a good old age.

☞The Charter Oak Insurance Company of Hartford has suffered more from mismanagement than almost any other corporation. Five years ago it claimed to have assets of $13,000,000 and to-day the Hartford *Times* says it cannot show over $2,000,000. Exactly what will become of it, and how the policy holders will fare, is as yet a mystery. The present management is undoubtedly capable and honest, but a sick elephant is a bad animal to doctor—especially when its back is broken and its legs are rheumatic.

☞Ex-Governor J. Madison Wilks of the Louisana returning board, surrendered himself Friday and was imprisoned at New Orleans. Judge Bradley of the U. S. Supreme Court, has decided adversely upon the application of the board, requesting that their trial be transferred from the State to the United States circuit court. An appeal may be taken to the fall court. Meanwhile the trial of the other members of the board is progressing at New Orleans with every prospect of a conviction.

☞President Eliot estimates that the annual expenses of students at Harvard College may be classified as follows, the long vacation being excluded: Least amount, $490; economical, $615; moderate, $830; ample, 1365. A few students, he says, keep their expenditures, within $500, and it is possible to do this without injury to health, and without suffering of any sort, but it requires an extreme economy at every point, and that faculty of making a little go a good way, which not many young men poesess. The great majority of students, whose parents are neither rich nor poor, spend from $650 to $850 a year.

☞Mayor Hamlin of Bangor, is trying to induce some of the silk weavers of Switzerland and Belgium who are out of work to emigrate to Bangor. Prof. Erni, U. S. Consul at Basle, the greatest silk and ribbon manufacturing city in the world, has written to Mayor Hamlin, and says he thinks that Bangor would be a very good place for silk weavers, and will do what he can to induce some to go there. A favorable letter has also been received from the U. S. Consul at Belgium.

☞Charges of a serious character have been preferred against Col. Polk, doorkeeper of the National House of Representatives and the case has been placed in the hands of a committee to investigate. He will probably share the fate of Fitz Hugh "the biger man than old Grant."

☞The schooner Kila Haynes of Providence, went ashore on Plum Island in the Sound Friday and sank with all on board.

Items of Maine News.

The Rockland Courier is dead.

The Sovereigns of Industry have opened a co-operative store in Belfast.

There is more suffering among the poor of Belfast than for many years.

The Belfast Paper Mill Company is about to close up its business in that city.

A French woman named Corro died at Fort Kent last week, aged 100 years.

Mr. Alexander McCabe of Wells, was found dead in his bed Sunday morning.

There are nine large vessels about loading grain for Europe, in the port of Portland.

Ira M. Wallingford, son of George Wallingford of Berwick, fell dead Thursday of last week.

A little Pero child of Bath was scalded to death a few days since by sitting down in a pail of hot water.

The Supreme Judicial Court at Saco, adjourned *sine die* Friday forenoon, after a session of 29 days.

A large hennery in Belfast owned by Jas. Mitchell, was burned last week. Loss $500; insurance $360.

Mrs. Olive Turner died in Dedham recently, having reached the advanced age of 97 years and 3 months.

Maggie Quigley has recovered $200 from the city of Bangor for injuries received by a fall on an icy sidewalk.

Capt. Leonard Williams and wife of Bath celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of their marriage Tuesday week.

Maine claims the oldest person in New England. Lancester Hodges of Brownfield, who was 107 years Jan. 31st.

The mercury at Fort Fairfield three mornings last week was twenty, fifteen and thirty-five degrees below, respectively.

The store of Leonard J. Chase in Eden, was entered by burglars Saturday night, and $300 dollars worth of goods stolen.

The Eastern Express Co. offer a reward of $500 for the recovery of the package of money recently stolen from their office in Dexter.

The Bethel Steam Mill Company have been obliged to take their teams from the wood on Riley Plantation on account of lack of snow.

The citizens of Damariscotta and Newcastle, are forming an association to cut ice at Damariscotta Mills. It is on the

The Maine Farmer: An Agricultural and Family Newspaper.

The Markets.

Brighton Cattle Market.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 6.

Amount of stock at market—Cattle 2128; Sheep and Lambs 1000; Swine 7600; number Western Cattle 2036; Eastern Cattle 186; Milch Cows and Northern Cattle 145.

Prices of Beef Cattle per 100 lbs. live weight—Extra quality $6 00a6 25; first quality $5 87½a6 00; second quality $5 25a5 50; third quality $4 75a5 12½; poorest grade of coarse Oxen, Bulls, &c. $3 50a4 50.

Brighton Hides 7c per lb.; Brighton Tallow 6 per lb. Country Hide 6¼a6c per lb.; Country Tallow 5c per lb. Calf Skins 10a11c per lb; Sheep and Lamb Skins 75ca$100 each.

There has been a larger surply of Beef Cattle brought in from the West for the week ending to date than there were at the previous market. The quality upon an average was better, and the trade for them has been active at prices about the same as these obtained one week ago for Cattle of a poorer grade. Taking quality into consideration drovers say that the prices for the week are fully as low, or than those of our last quotations. About half of the Cattle from Maine were suitable for Beef, the remainder Working Oxen and Stores.

Working Oxen—There was a fair supply in market and a moderate demand for them. A few pairs each week is all the market requires during the winter months. We quote sales of 1 pr. girth 7 ft live weight 3300 lbs. at $190; 1 pr. girth 6 ft 6 in. live weight 2260 lbs. $95; 1 pr. girth 7 ft 5 in. live weight 2500 lbs. $140; 1 pr. girth 6 ft 11 in. live weight 2700 lbs, $100; 1 pr. girth 6 ft 2 in. three year olds, live weight 2100 lbs. $75; 1 pr two year olds, girth 5 ft 8 in. live weight 1600 lbs. $ 0.

Milch Cows—Extra $55a95; ordinary $25a50 per head. Most of the Cows offered in market for sale are of a common grade. Trade for common grades has been dull of late. Good cows usually sell well at fair prices.

Store Cattle—Yearlings $11a18; two year olds $16 a27; three year olds $25a45 ⅌ head. Prices for small cattle depend much upon their value for Beef. Light call for Store Cattle

Sheep and Lamb—there were thirteen double deck loads of Western Sheep and Lambs brought into market the past week, all owned by G. W. Hollis and taken to the Aba toir to be slaughtered.

Swine—No Store Pigs in market. Fat hogs 7000; prices 5 per lb live weight.

Boston Market.

BOSTON, Feb. 6.

FLOUR AND GRAIN. There is a dull feeling for Flour and the tendency of prices is in favor of buyers, although no material change has taken place; the sales have been at $4a4 50 for Western superfine; $4 75a5 25 for common extras; $5 25a6 for Wisconsin extras; and $5 50a6 50 per bbl for Minnesota, but the latter is an extreme price; winter wheats are dull at $5 75a6 50 per bbl for Ohio, Indiana and Michigan; $5a7 25 for Illinois; and $6 25a7 25 for St. Louis, including choice and favorite brands at $7 50a8 per bbl. In patent Wisconsin and Minnesota brands the sales have been at $7a9 per bbl. Corn is dull and sales limited; prices range from 55a57c per bush for mixed and yellow. Oats are dull and prices are easier; we quote sales at 40a43c per bushel for No 1 and extra white; 38a39c for No 2 white and No. 1 mixed; and 93a37c for No 3 white and No 2 mixed Rye is dull and has been selling in small lots at 75c per bush. Shorts are firm and have been in demand at $20a21; and Fine Feed and Middlings are dull at $21a$24 per ton.

PROVISIONS. The demand for Pork is moderate with sales at $9 50a$11 for prime; $12 50a$13 for mess; and $13 50a15 per bbl for clear and extra clear. Beef sells at $12a13 50 for mess and extra mess; and $14a15 per bbl for family. Lard has been in fair demand at 8¼a9c per lb for city and Western. Smoked Hams are selling at 9¼a10c per lb for city and Western, and 12½a13c for fancy Western. Dressed Hogs are dull at 4¾a5c for Western, and 6a6c for citydressed. Butter sells at 12a35c per lb for common and very choice; and Cheese at 10a14c per lb for common and prime.

PRODUCE. Eggs have been in fair demand, with sales at 15a18c per dozen for Western, Eastern and Northern. White Beans are dull, and have been in moderate demand. Mediums have been selling at $1 75a1 85, and, and the latter is now an extreme price for the best; extra Pea from $2a2 12½; and Yellow Eyes at $2 90a3 22 per bush. The market for Potatoes is not quite so firm and the sale have been at 45a55c per bush for Jackson Whites and Early Rose. Onions range from $2 75a3 25 per bbl. Green Apples have been in demand with sales at $4 25a5 per bbl. In Cranberries the sales have been at $4 50 per bbl; as to quality. Poultry has been selling at 8a12c per lb. as to quality, for Western; and fresh Jobs of Northern at an advance on these figures.

HAY. The demand for Hay is moderate and prices unchanged. The sales have been at $18a19 per ton for choice and $14a17 per ton for medium. In Rye Straw the sales have been at $13a14 per ton, and dull at these prices.

HOPS. The market is quiet for Hops and the sales have been small at 7a12c per lb for Eastern and Western.

Wool Market.

BOSTON, Feb. 6.

There continues to be a fair business doing in Wool and in prices no change, and with no prospect of any change at present. Manufacturers, however, purchase cautiously, and are not disposed to anticipate their wants to any extent. The sales include 200,000 lbs fleeces at 43a46c for No. 1 X XX Ohio and Pennsylvania, and there is now very little difference in the price of fine and medium grades; Michigan, Wisconsin and New Hampshire at 39a 42c; 125,000 lbs unwashed and unmerchantable fleeces at 25a32c; 184,000 lbs Oregon at 25a3½c; 200,000 lbs super and X pulled at 28a48c; 43,000 lbs California at 18a33c for spring, and 18a28c for fall; 45,000 lbs delaine and combing at 45a54c; 26,000 lbs Noils at 32a43c. and 10,000 lbs sundries at 16a24c lb

Gold and Stock Market.

NEW YORK, Feb. 6.

Money was active at @5 per cent. on call. Gold opened at 10½ and closed at 10¼.

United States 6ixes (coupons), 1881,		105¾
" " " 5.20's, 1865,		102½
" " " 1865, (new)		102¾
" " " 1867,		105
" " " 1868,		107¼
" " New 5's,		103¼
" " 10.40's (coupons),		108¼
" " Currency 6's,		117

Augusta City Market.

[THURSDAY, Feb. 7.

APPLES—An occasional barrel of winter apples comes into market at about $5. Dried 7a8c.

BEANS—Handsome pea beans, clean and nice, have sold the past week at $2 50a2 75; yellow eyes $2 00.

BUTTER—Fall make in nice condition 25c; common winter make 20a23c.

CHEESE—Factory 11a13c; private dairy 10a12c.

FLOUR—$6 00a10 00 ⅌ bbl.

GRAIN—Corn 70a75c; oats 40c.

HAY—Pressed $15; prime quality, $16a17.

HONEY—Choice Aroostok honey 25a30c per box.

HIDES AND SKINS—Hides 4 c; calf skins 10a12c; lamb skins 50a75c; deacons 35c; shearlings 30a 25c.

LIME AND CEMENT—$1 per cask for lime, $3 for cement.

NATIVE CRANBERRIES—3 00 per bush.

MEAL—Corn 73a75c; rye $1 25.

PRODUCE—Potatoes 45a50c; eggs 16a18c; lard 14c.

PROVISIONS—Clear salt pork $10 00a12 00; round hogs 6c; beef per side 7a10c; ham 9a13c; fowls 7 a9c; spring chickens 9a13c; turkeys 9a13c; geese 9 a11c.

SHORTS—$1 25 per hundred lbs.

WOOL—Little has been doing in our city market although prices remain virtually unchanged, viz; washed 40c; unwashed 30c.

WOOD—Mill wood delivered in the city, $2 00a2 50 per cord; dry hemlock $4 00 per cord; dry hard wood $5 00a5 50.

NOTE—A rather quiet week for our street and city markets, the very mild weather and poor travelling being conducive to inactivity. Country produce seems in ample supply, eggs having declined to 16c; butter though abundant remains unchanged, with little difference from last week in most commodities. Handsome turkies from Aroostook county have been in our market, and also fine wethers killed by our own butchers, one of which, brought to market by Mr. Vaughan weighing 119½ lbs.

Portland Market.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 6.

APPLES—$4 00a5 00 per bbl. Dried 9 to 12c per lb

BUTTER—25a31c for family; store, 13a16c per lb.

BEANS—Pea $2 37a2 25; yellow eyes $2 25a237.

CHEESE—Maine and Vermont Factory 12a13c.

FISH—Large shore $4 50a4 75; large bank $4 25a 4 75; small $3 00a3 50; pollock $1 50a2 00; haddock $1 75a1 85, and, and the latter is now an extreme price for the best; extra Pea from $2a2 12½; and Yellow Eyes at $2 90a3 22 per bush. The market for Potatoes is not quite so firm and the sale have been at 45a55c per bush for Jackson Whites and Early Rose. Onions range from $2 75a3 25 per bbl. Green Apples have been in demand with sales at $4 25a5 per bbl. In Cranberries the sales have been at $4 50 per bbl; as to quality. Poultry has been selling at 8a12c per lb. as to quality, for Western; and fresh Jobs of Northern at an advance on these figures.

FLOUR—Superfine $4 50a5 00; spring X and XX $5 75a6 75; Michigan winter X and XX $6 25a7 00; patent spring wheat $7 5a9 50; St. Louis X and XX do best $5 25 a8 25.

GRAIN—Corn 59a57c; bag lots 62a63c per bush; oats 43a45; fine feed 14a25 per ton; shorts $4 50 per ton.

HAY—Loose $15a18 per ton; pressed $15 00a16 00; straw $8a10 per ton.

LARD—Per tierce 8¼a8¾c per lb; per keg 8¼a8¾; pail 10a10¾;

PLASTER—Rock per ton $2 00; ground in bbls $1 15; calcined in bbs $2 25a2 50.

PRODUCE—Beef side 6a10c; veal 6a8c, mutton 5a 6c; chickens 10a15c turkeys 12½a14c; eggs 18a21c; potatoes 50a55c; cabbage $10a15 per ton.

PROVISIONS—Chicago extra beef 14 50a15 00; pork backs $16 00a16 50; clear $15a14 50; mess $18a12 50; hams 9¾a10c per lb; round hogs 6a6½c.

Bangor Produce Market.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 6.

BEANS—Yellow eyes $1 75a2 00 per bush; pea $2 12 2 00.

BUTTER—16a22c per lb.

EGGS—16a18c per doz.

HAY—$12a14 per ton; pressed $12a15.

GRAIN—Oats 42a45c per bush; corn 67a73c.

POTATOES—30a50 per bush.

PROVISIONS—Pork 15a18 per bbl; round hog 5a6c per lb; fresh beef per side 5a8c mutton and lambs 6 a8cts

HIDES AND SKINS—Pelts 80c@$1 25 each; hide 7c per lb; veal skin 12½c per lb.

WOOL—Fleece wool 27a37c per lb.

☞ Sixteen numbers of Mrs. Lamb's History of the City of New York are now completed, constituting the first volume, and are ready for delivery. The publishers have spared no pains to make this one of the best local histories ever issued from the press. Mrs. Lamb has a pleasant, though remarkably concise style, and the history of New Amsterdam under Dutch rule reads like a romance. The next volume brings the history down to the present time. A. S. Barnes & Co., New York, are the publishers.

CONSUMPTION CURED. An old physician, retired from practice, having had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of consumption, bronchitis, catarrh, asthma, and all throat and lung affections, also a positive and radical cure for nervous debility and all nervous complaints, after having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, has felt it his duty to make it known to his suffering fellows. Actuated by this motive, and a desire to relieve human suffering, I will send, free of charge, to all who desire it, this recipe in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail by addressing with stamp, naming this paper, W. W. Sherar, 126 Powers' Block, Rochester, N. Y. 4?9

☞ It is quite a mistake to think that Bright's Disease, Kidney, Bladder and Glandular Affections, Gravel, Diabetes, Dropsy and Urinary Complaints, cannot be cured. HUNT'S REMEDY thoroughly cures these Diseases. All Diseases of the Kidneys, Bladder and Urinary Organs, are cured by HUNT'S REMEDY.

Clarke's Tooth-ache Drops cure instantly.

Congressional Summary.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 30.

SENATE. During the morning hour Mr. Hoar of Massachusetts, had read a communication from the Commissioner of Pensions, in regard to the application of a soldier for pension not having been acted upon on account of insufficient clerical force of the Surgeon General where the hospital records of the army are kept. Messrs. Hoar, Edmunds and Ingalls commented on the delay in acting upon cases and argued that it was caused by the Democratic party reducing the appropriations.

Mr. Withers denied the statement and Mr. Davis of West Virginia read from the report of the Jencks committee that three persons had been detailed from the Pension office to act as clerks of the Republican Congressional Committee.

Pending discussion the morning hour expired and the Senate resumed discussion of the silver bill.

Mr. Christiancy submitted an amendment in the nature of a substitute providing for the coinage of silver dollars of 434 grains, nine-tenths pure silver and one-tenth alloy, which shall be a legal tender for all debts, except where otherwise provided by law or contract. It also authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury to purchase monthly not less than $2,000,000 nor more than $4,000,000 worth of silver bullions to be coined. It further provides that the act shall remain in force but one year. Ordered printed.

Mr. Christiancy then spoke on his amendment.

HOUSE. Mr. Hayes of Ill., introduced a bill prohibiting any further destruction of legal tender notes and making said notes legal tender for custom duties. Referred.

The House went into committee of the Whole to consider the bill extending the time for withdrawal of distilled spirits now in bond, until July 1st. 1878.

Mr. Butler's amendment, providing that when spirits are withdrawn from bond, tax shall be collected at the rate required by law at the time of its entry into bond, was adopted in committee, 108 against 51.

After the discussion the committee adopted Foster's substitute for the original proposition, declaring a reduction of tax on whiskey inexpedient by a vote of 134 to 35.

When the committee rose, House sustained its action in adopting the substitute. Yeas 146; nays 112.

Adjourned.

THURSDAY, Feb. 31.

SENATE. The joint resolution extending the thanks to Congress to Henry M. Stanley, the explorer of Central Africa, was unanimously agreed to.

A bill appropriating $200,000 for the erection of suitable posts for the protection of the Rio Grande frontier passed. The Senate then resumed consideration of the silver bill, and several amendments were offered and ordered printed.

After some discussion on motion of Mr. Bayard, further consideration of the silver bill was postponed until Monday, with the understanding that the debate shall be resumed and contined from day to day until a vote be taken. The Senate then adjourned until Monday.

HOUSE. A resolution to investigate the charges of official misconduct in the United States Western District Court of North Carolina, was referred to the Judiciary Committee.

A bill was reported from the Committee on Post-offices fixing the pay of higher classes of letter carriers in large cities at $1,000 and lower classes at $800 per annum. Referred to Committee of the Whole.

The House went into Committee of the Whole upon the Military Academy appropriation bill.

Mr. Durham explained the bill. It appropriates $272,155 being $14.449 less than the bill of last year. The present bill appropriated $150.000 for the pay of Cadets which would not in the least lessen the pay of each Cadet.

A debate ensued but without action the Committee rose.

Mr. Harris from the committee on Elections reported in the California case against Pacheco (the sitting member) and in favor of Wigginton (the contestant.)

Mr. Waitt presented a separate report taking opposite grounds.

Mr. Harris gave notice that he would call up the case next Tuesday.

FRIDAY, Feb. 1.

HOUSE. Mr. Baker of Indiana, rising to a question of privilege, said several days ago a gentleman well known to him brought him a certain statement in writing involving misconduct of a grave, if not a criminal nature on the part of the door-keeper of the House. He had taken no notice of it at the time, but when that gentleman returned shortly after with his statement in the form of an affidavit, he (Baker) felt that he should be false to his duty if he did not bring the matter to the notice of the House. Besides these statements, there were two others also which he would present. The first document contained the names of 63 employes on the rolls of the door-keeper in excess of the number authorized by law. Mr. Baker asked that they be read.

Mr. Hunter objected.

Mr. Baker then offered a resolution reciting the charges that John W. Polk, the door-keeper, had been guilty of corruption and malfeasance in office; that he has required employes to pay to other employes part of their salaries, and that he is interested in claims and bills now pending before Congress, and directing the Committee on Rules to inquire into the matter alleged against the door-keeper, and report whether said door-keeper is guilty of the alleged charges, and also whether that office ought not to be abolished.

Mr. Baker then had read from the Clerk's desk the affidavits referred to.

The first was signed by Ingraham Correll, charging that Mr. Polk was interested in claims before Congress, and had promised him an interest in them in consideration of his resigning his position as clerk.

The second statement was signed by Mark A. Duffy, Assistant Superintendent of the document room, making substantially the same charges and declaring Mr. Polk told him (Duffy) that he had a "corner" upon Congress in the way of appointments, and he could get the Committee on Accounts to do anything for him.

At the end of an hour's debate the House refused to second the previous question and the discussion went on. After a lengthy but amusing debate between Messrs. Wright, Bridges and several other members, the previous question was seconded and Mr. Baker's resolution (modified to direct an investigation to be made by the committee on reform in the civil service) was adopted.

MONDAY, Feb. 4.

SENATE. Dawes introduced the bill regulating authenticating and use of proxies in meetings of shareholders in national banking associations of finance.

Hamlin presented a petition of citizens of Bangor, Me., asking an additional appropriation for the improvement of that harbor. Referred to the committee on commerce.

The Senate then resumed consideration of the silver bill.

Beck submitted an amendment directing the Secretary of the Treasury to purchase from time to time silver bullion not less than $3,000.000 per month, or as much more as can be coined at the mints; to have the United States the benefit of the gain or segnniorage, provided that whenever the market price of silver bullion is such that it cannot be purchased at less than par in legal tenders, he shall give notice of the fact, and any citizen of the United States owning bullion may deposit the same at the mint, and have it coined.

The amendment further provides that the sub-treasury coinage shall contain the same relative quantity of pure and standard silver as the silver dollar.

After Beck explained his amendment briefly, Bayard took the floor and spoke in opposition to the silver bill.

HOUSE. Among the bills introduced and referred is one by Southard authorizing the payment or customs in legal tender notes, and one by Mills, providing all bonds issued shall be payable, principal and interest, in gold, silver or legal tender notes.

Singleton, from the committee on appropriations, reported the consular and diplomatic appropriation bill, which was made a special order for Feb. 12.

Ellsworth presented an affidavit from the door-keeper, stating there was no foundation in the charges against his official integrity, made in the affidavits of Correl and Duffy, and earnestly requesting an investigation on the part of the House.

The affidavit was referred to the committee on civil service reform.

Adjourned.

TUESDAY, Feb. 5.

SENATE. Conkling said he had received a large number of petitions from citizens of many counties in New York, in favor of remonetization of silver. He observed these petitions were all printed and in one and the same form, and were the product of an organized effort. He denied that they represented the opinion or convictions of the people of New York on this silver question.

Referred to finance committee.

The following bills were introduced and referred:

Against fraudulent claims; referred to the judiciary committee.

For the protection of sub-contractors for carrying mails; referred to post office committee.

To protect witnesses in U. S. courts; referred to the judiciary committee.

The Senate resumed consideration of the silver bill, and Eaton of Connecticut spoke in opposition thereto. Several amendments were offered and ordered printed, and the bill was laid over.

Conkling presented a petition signed by a large number of prominent citizens of New York in regard to the famine and suffering in northern China, and suggesting a commission to be appointed from the residents in China to act in connection with the U. S. Minister in procuring and distributing relief. They also suggest the unexpended balance of money received from China in 1856 be now used for the relief of these sufferers. Referred to the committee on foreign affairs.

Adjourned.

HOUSE. The time of the house was consumed in the morning hour in presentation and reference of petitions, resolutions &c.

The house at 3.40 went into committee of the whole (Blackburn in the chair,) and resumed the consideration of the Military Academy appropriation bill.

On motion of Durham, the item of $7,000 for additional pay of professors for length of service, was struck out.

Mayham moved to strike out the item of $900 for pay of one instructor of practical military engineering, in addition to his pay as 1st Lieutenant.

Without disposing of the pending amendment the committee arose and the House adjourned.

Foreign News.

The Eastern War.

London, Feb. 5. A Vienna dispatch says that Count Andrassy's invitations to the signatory powers of the treaty of Paris to send representatives to the conference, fix no date for assembling. It is believed that an important decision is pending by Austria, which is greatly dependent on the result of the debate in the British Parliament, and on which the fate of England and Austria depends.

A Paris correspondent says that he has received on high authority, some confirmation of the rumor that Russia is negotiating for the surrender of the whole Turkish fleet.

Constantinople, Feb. 4. The office of the Grand Vizier has been abolished, and a new ministry formed.

Rome, Feb. 5. The Popolo Romano says that Italy and France have accepted Austria's invitation to the conference.

Trieste, Feb. 5. the Austrian ironclads, Kaiser Max, carrying 12 six-and-one-half ton guns, and Hapsburg with 14 ten-ton guns, are fitting for service.

Ragusa, Feb. 5. The Prince of Montenegro has accepted an armistice, and ordered a cessation of hostilities.

A St. Petersburg despatch says that the cessation of hostilities has caused more anxiety than rejoicing in Russia.

Athens, Feb. 5. The Turkish Minister designates the action of the Greek government as declaration of war. He telegraphed to Constantinople for men-of-war to convey him hence, in consequence of which the Turkish fleet under Hobart Pasha has arrived.

The Greek government is in consternation and intends appealing to the intervention of the guaranteeing powers. A great panic prevails.

France.

Versailles, Feb. 1 In the Chamber of Deputies this afternoon the discussion on the validity of the election of a conservative deputy, gave rise to a scene of intense excitement, Gambetta and Rouher accusing each other of responsibility for the disasters to France.

Cuba.

New York, Jan. 30. Letters from Havana state that on the 11th inst. the sugar plantations of Santa Anna, Santa Isabella and Armania were burned by the patriots, under Gen. Maceo. They subsequently destroyed the Santa Fe sugar plantation, about 45 miles from Gutanamo. Each plantation yielded about 8000 boxes of sugar annually. On the 17th inst. the patriots captured the Spanish fort on the river Rio Grande, 21 miles from Sancti Espiritu, and three days later the village of San Miguel Neurtes. In Camagrey, and captured a large quantity of provisions and clothing.

Mexico.

City of Mexico, January 30, via Havana, February 5. An attempt at a revolution in Tamaulipas was easily suppressed by the government.

AN ALPINE AVALANCHE.

In the summer of 1864, a party of tourists while visiting the Alps, climbed, with great difficulty, to an elevated and snow-covered plateau, in order to obtain a better view of Swiss scenery, and contrast the beauty and sterility of midwinter around and above them. In play they rolled the moist snow into large balls, then crowded it over the edge of the plateau. In falling it struck softer snow, which immediately gave way, and soon an avalanche was tearing down the mountain side burying and destroying everything in its course. As the handful of snow became the irresistible avalanche, so the hacking cough with sore throat and Catarrh, if neglected, speedily develops into that dread destroyer, Consumption. In the early stages, Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy will effect a cure, though if the blood be affected or impoverished it must be purified and enriched by Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, and the liver and bowels kept active by his Pleasant Purgative Pellets. Many who despaired of life and had been given up to die by physicians and friends, owe their restoration to the above remedies.

Ely, Linn Co., Iowa, May 8th, 1877.

DR. PIERCE, Buffalo, N. Y.:

Dear Sir.—I was prostrated some three years since with pleuro pneumonia, which left me with a troublesome cough, that gradually grew worse until physicians gave me up to die with consumption. I tried several remedies, that are advertised to cure consumption, but without obtaining any relief or benefit. Seeing your Golden Medical Discovery and Pleasant Purgative Pellets advertised, I concluded to try them. My restoration has remained complete for over two years. Inclosed find $1.50 for a copy of your Common Sense Medical Advertiser. Ever gratefully yours,

JASON C. BARTHOLOMEW.

☞ The Dardanelles or Hellespont concerning which the nations of Europe are at present much interested, is a narrow strait about forty miles long and from one to four miles in breadth, which connects the Mediterranean Sea with the Sea of Marmora, which is connected with the Black Sea by the Bosphorus upon which Constantinople is situated. The right to pass through these straits with ships of war is a highly important privilege desired by Russia, and which she is likely to insist upon. Under the treaty of Paris in 1850 Russian ships of war were excluded from the Black Sea, but during the German-French war she procured the abrogation of the restriction, but was still denied an outlet to the Mediterranean. Russia will now demand the right to pass through the Dardanelles with her war ships, and some of the English Conservatives pretend to believe that the granting of that privilege will threaten British interests.

☞ A singular fatality seems to follow up all the institutions chartered by Congress in the interest of the colored race. The Freedmen's Bank, at Washington, was started with the most brilliant prospects, but was plundered and ultimately made bankrupt by a real estate ring in that city. The Freedmen's Bureau was broken up and destroyed by its faithless and corrupt officials. And now the Freedmen's Hospital of that city is similarly afflicted, and likely to wind up in fraud and disgrace. It has been liberally pampered by Congressional appropriations, but a large portion of the money has gone into the pockets of its thievish officers. Fortunately for the reputation of the negro, the plunderers of these institutions have all been white men.

☞ How many suffer constantly, in some form, the maladies that result from the errors of youth, and would give all they possess to be restored to sound and vigorous health so necessary to physical and mental enjoyment. Let such consult, in our columns, the advertisement of the "Peabody Medical Institute," setting forth the character of the medical works published by it. "The Science of Life, or Self-Preservation," will guide those who are afflicted with the consequences of youthful indiscretions to paths of pleasantness and physical vigor. "Diseases of the Nerves and Nervous Maladies," is a fountain of knowledge to all suffering from nervous debility. A Gold Medal of great beauty and value, has recently been presented to the author of the above works by the National Medical Association.

The Parent of Insomnia.

The parent of insomnia or wakefulness is in nine cases out of ten a dyspeptic stomach. Good digestion gives sound sleep, Indigestion interferes with it. The brain and stomach sympathize. One of the prominent symptoms of a weak state of the gastric organs is a disturbance of the great nerve entrepot, the brain. Invigorate the stomach, and you restore equilibrium to the great centre. A most reliable medicine for the purpose is Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, which is far preferable to mineral sedatives and powerful narcotics which, though they may for a time exert a soporific influence upon the brain, soon cease to act, and invariably injure the tone of the stomach. The Bitters on the contrary, restore activity to the operations of that all important organ, and the beneficent influence is reflected in sound sleep and a tranquil state of the nervous system. A wholesome impetus is likewise given to the action the liver and bowels by its use.

Special Notices.

By Universal Accord

AYER'S CATHARTIC PILLS are the best of all purgatives for family use. They are the product of long, laborious and successful chemical investigation, and their extensive use, by Physicians in their practice, and by all civilized nations, proves them the best and most effectual purgative Pill that medical science can devise. Being purely vegetable no harm can arise from their use. In intrinsic value and curative powers no other pills can be compared with them, when needed. They keep the system in perfect order, and maintain in healthy action the whole machinery of life. Mild, searching and effectual, they are specially adapted to the needs of the digestive apparatus, derangements of which they prevent and cure, if timely taken. They are the best and safest physic to employ for children and weakened constitutions, where a mild, but effectual, cathartic is required.

FOR SALE BY ALL DEALERS.

The Centaur Liniments are of two kinds. The White is for the human family; the Yellow is for horses, sheep, and other animals. Testimonials of the effects produced by these remarkable Preparations are wrapped around every bottle, and may be procured of any druggist, or by mail from the Office of THE CENTAUR COMPANY, 46 Dey Street, New York City. 1y10

Save The Children!

Multitudes of them suffer, linger, and die, because of *Pin-worms*. The only known remedy for these most troublesome and dangerous of all worms in children or adults, is **DR. COULD'S PINWORM SYRUP.** Purely vegetable; sure death to all worms; a valuable cathartic, and beneficial to health. Warranted. Price reduced to 50 cts. per bottle. GEO. C GOODWIN & CO., BOSTON. 16?28

A CARD.

To all who are suffering from the errors and indiscretions of youth, nervous weakness, early decay, loss of manhood, &c., I will send a receipe that will cure you, FREE OF CHARGE. This great remedy was discovered by a missionary in South America. Send a self-addressed envelope to the REV. JOSEPH T. INMAN, *Station D, Bible House, N. Y.* 1y39

MISSISQUOI SPRING WATER.

The water of this great spring is a specific for CANCER, BRIGHT'S DISEASE, SCROFULA, CUTANEOUS AFFECTIONS, and all diseases arising from impurities of the BLOOD.

The water is sold by all prominent druggists, and pamphlets containing wonderful cures can be had by addressing "Missisquoi Springs," Franklin Co., Vermont. 3m7

Heloise, who was so famous in the twelfth century for her Latin letters and her great love for Abelard, has now only a remote place in history. SLIPPERY ELM LOZENGES, which are equally famous in their sphere of action, exist for others, and not for themselves. If you have a Cough, try them. For Sale by all Druggists. Caswell & Co., corner Washington and Winter Sts., Boston.

Married.

In Auburn, Jan. 12, Chas. Hunt to Lizzie Hartley of Lewiston.

In Bowdoinham, Jan. 24, John C. Moore of Lisbon to M. Ella Jones.

In Bath, Jan. 3, Henry L. Aden of Camden to Annie E Morse.

In Bingham, Oct. 17, William Padham to Martha Moody. Dec. 30, N W. Murphy of The Forks to Viola M Moore; Jan. 13, Wm. A. Foss to Lottie M. Morse, both of Athens.

In Biddeford, Jan. 25, Jas. H. Tarbox to Mary O. Patten.

In Berwick, Jan. 29, Streeter S Smith to Mrs. Anna L Frost, both of Dover, N. H.; Jan 19, S. L Harrington of Limington to Adida Mulley.

In Camden, Jan. 24, Warren C. Benson to Katie R. Small; Jan. 26, James B. Long of St George to Emma Dean

In Cumberland, Jan. 27, Bella L. Black to Salome A. Libby of Falmouth

In Charlo.tetown, P. E. I., Jan. 1, J. D. Currie to Margaret Dalling of London, England; Jan 17, Thos. Coughlin, Darnley, to Elsie McNeill, Fermoy, L. 4 18; Jan. 23, Robert McKay to Julia A. Emery, both of Wood Islands; Chas. Hume of Georgetown, Lot61, to Eunice Robertson of Summerside; George E. Hughes to Anna Gordon, Spring Park.

In Crapaud, P. E. I., Dec. 28, Alonzo E. Trowsdale to Mary E Inman.

In Dixfield, Jan. 24, Thos. B. Stone to Mrs. Catherine Hathaway, both of Wilton; Jan. 13, Walter Fletcher to Ida M. Byron.

In Dennysville, Jan. 28, Renalwin Outhouse of Ill. to Addie Leighton of Perry.

In Frankfort, Jan. 22, Webster Perkins to Dora Kingsbury.

In Fort Fairfield, Jan. 17, Samuel Jewett to Carrie Richards; Jan. 26, John A. Larlee to Francina Cronkite both of Perth, N. B.

In Gardiner, Jan. 23, John F. Herriman to Millie L. Mitchell, both of Pittston.

In Georgetown, Jan 5, Welland F. Marr of Southport to L. Ardell Rowe.

In Gorham, Dec 24, Samuel S. B. Knight of Westbrook to Adra A. Wescott.

In Gouldsboro, San. 19, Geo. H. Hammond to Arvilla T. Robinson.

In Islesboro, Jan 15, Capt. J. S. Harlow of East Orrington to Eliza S Pendleton.

In Jay, Jan. 27, Carroll L. Pomeroy to Rose A Wigginswroth; Jan. 17, Henry A. Strout of Canton to Clara Paine.

In Lubec, Jan. 12, Robert Hunt to Belle Ficket; Alphonso Wormell to Abbie Reynolds.

In Monmouth, Jan. 25, Chas. A. Brooks of Greenwood to Eva L. Leach.

In Matinawankeag, Jan. 29, A. Orlando Stratton to Irene H. Chadbourne.

In Meddybemps, Jan 25, Michael Brown of Alexander to Mrs. Mary Lovell.

In Orland, Jan. 26, Josiah Quimby of Bucksport to Delia A. Starr.

In Orono, Jan. 27, Israel W. Mansfield to Angie Mercer.

In Portland, Jan. 29, Albert M. Wentworth to Georgia D. Foss; Jan. 30, Walter W. Sabine to Lillia M. Kilborn.

In Palermo, Jan. 31, John A, Foote to Nellie A. Young.

In Paris, Jan. 23, Capt. John R. Brindle, U. S. A of Greenville, Del. to Gertrude J. Brown

In Rockland, Jan. 1, Otis Larrabee to Sarah J. Cushman; Jan. 17, Hiram L. Ingraham to Mrs. Fannie L. Harris of Boothbay; Jan. 20, Fred H. Sweetland to Rose B. Payson; Jan. 23, W. L. Blackington to Alda E. Brown.

In Richmond, Jan. 23, Wm. L. Nelson to Emma H. Moody.

In Skowhegan, Jan. 17, Nathaniel Towle of Hartland to Mrs. Elizabeth H. Russell

In Searsport, Jan. 22, Chas. H. Morin to Della H Fletcher.

In Smithfield, Jan 27, Freeman Ellis to Mrs. Nancy J Trask, both of West Waterville.

In Saco, Jan. 31, Francis N. Clark of Dayton to Clara S. Currier.

In Surry, Jan. 18, Jos. A. Gray of Bluehill to Mary S. Varnum.

In St. Eleanor's, P. E. I., Jan. 2, Wm. Doherty to Isabella Burns.

In Summerside, P. E. I., Jan. 10, J. D. Whitehead to Eliza McEwen, both of New London.

In Upper Stillwater, Jan. 22, I. G. Lunt of Oldtown to Fannie L. Lewis.

In West Bath, Jan. 30, Geo. H. Butler to Annie A Rich

In Winterport, Jan 20, Fred J. Campbell to Julia A. Waggett of Frankfort.

In Warren, Jan. 24, Jos. N. Copeland to Elsie M. Andrews of Camden.

In Woodstock, N. B., Jan. 21, Chas. S. Preble of Blaine to Eliza A. White

In Waltham, Mass., Jan. 30, Nathaniel Wills to Mrs. Sarah Remington, formerly of Augusta.

Died.

In Augusta, Jan. 30, Chas. T. Heseltine, aged 32 years.

In Auburn, Jan. 25, Justin Pettengill, aged 73½ years; Jan. 26, Franklin Wakefield, aged 55½ years

In Alton, Jan. 27, James H. Brackett, aged 38 years.

In Albion, Dec. 7, Sarah H., wife of Ruel W. Shorey, aged 38½ years.

In Bath, Jan. 29, Alfred Doty, aged 38 years; Jan. 25, Robert Cole, aged 33½ years.

In Bridgton, Jan. 29, Capt. Richard Kimball, aged 72 years; Jan. 30, Mrs. Sarah M. Murphy, aged 91 years.

In Biddeford, Jan. 16, John F. Whittaker, aged 72½ years.

In Buxton, Jan. 27, Lottie H. Hutchinson, aged 14½ years.

In Belfast, Dec. 30, John Curtis, aged 86½ years.

In Belmont, Jan. 24, Lewis Pitcher, aged 83 years.

In Brewer, Jan. 28, Ida L., wife F. U. St. Clair, aged 19½ years.

In Bangor, Jan. 26, Frank H. Sellers, aged 33½ years; Jan. 28, Mrs. Ann Scott, aged 72 years; Mrs Mary F. Hiscom, aged 67 years; Capt. Benj. B. Bradbury, aged 75 years.

At Bay Fortune Road, P. E. I., Mary A., wife of Patrick Larkin, aged 66 years 6 months.

In Clinton, Jan. 18, Mrs. Roxanna Foss, aged 98 years.

In Corinna, Jan. 18, Willis C. Davis of Exeter, aged 28½ years.

In Calais, Jan. 18, James L. Welch, aged 71 years.

In Copelin, Sept. 30, Earnest, son of Orin Taylor, aged 5½ years; Nov. 8, Roy, son of S. Taylor, aged 3½ years.

In Clifton, P. E. I., Jan. 13, Isabel, wife of Jonathan McLeod, aged 45½ years.

In Charlotton, P. E. I., Dec. 28, Matilda, widow of John Clarke, aged 55 years.

In Charlottetown, P. E. I., Jan 8, Jas. McNaught, aged 73 years; Jan. 21, John T. Gates, aged 31½ years; Jan. 18, Margaret L., wife of Daniel Hodgson, aged 73 years.

In Deering, Jan. 26, Mary L. Deering, aged 71 years.

In East Dixfield, Jan. 18, Waldron Morse.

In Embden, Jan. 2, Olive, wife of Joseph Darrell, aged 81 years.

In Elliot, Jan. 21, John H. Bartlett of New Portland, aged 88 years.

In Ellsworth, Jan 15, Peltiah Tapley, aged 80½ years; Jan. 25, Mrs. H. W. Fiye, aged 38½ years.

In Eastport, Jan. 26, Frank Aymar, aged 11½ years.

In Fayette, Jan. 25, Cornelius M. Dyke, aged 63 years.

In Fairfield, Jan 25, Eva G., aged 5½ years; Jan. 26, Edith, age 7 years; children of Henry Cass.

In Farmington, Jan 23, Philip Rodrigue, aged 23 years.

In Frankfort, Jan. 19, Henry S. Black, aged 69 years.

In Forest City, Cal., Josiah W. Wilson, formerly of Solon, aged 73 years.

In Fredericton, P. E. I., Jan. 4, Michael Hill, aged 65 years.

In Fairville, St. John, P. E. I., J. Percy Norman.

In Gardiner, Jan. 19, Harriet M., wife of Warren Reed, aged 51 years; Jan 20, Mrs. Martha D. Smith aged 83½ years.

In Georgetown, J

Poetry.

Loafing Around.

They are sitting around upon barrels and chairs,
Discussing their own and their neighbors' affairs,
And the look of content that is seen on each face
Seems to say, I have found my appropriate place,
Sitting around.

In bar-rooms and groceries calmly they sit
And serenely chew borrowed tobacco, and spit,
While the stories they tell and the jokes that they crack
Show their hearts have grown hard and undoubtedly black
While sitting around.

The "sitter around" is a man of no means,
And his face wouldn't pass for a quart of white beans,
Yet he somehow or other contrives to exist,
And is frequently seen with a glass in his fist—
While sitting around.

The loungers—they toil not, nor yet do they spin,
Unless it be yarns while enjoying their gin;
They are people of leisure, yet often 'tis true,
They allude to the work they're intending to do,
While sitting around.

They're a habit of talking of other men's wives,
As they whittle up sticks with their horn-handled knives.
They're a seedy old set, and wherever you go
You'll find them in groups, or strung out in a row,
Sitting around. —*San Jose Mercury.*

Our Story Teller.

DIVINITY AND BAKED BEANS.

"Baked beans be good enough for any one Melinda. When your father came courtin' me he set a store by Hannah's famous baked beans, and I allus thought if them hadn't been so nice, I might never have been Mrs. Tibbs after all;" and Mrs. Tibbs smiled a broad smile at her little joke, which quite swept from her face the previous look of vexation.

Not so with her daughter Melinda, who was paring apples, with a very downcast face, as she answered gloomily:

"That was thirty years ago, ma, and times have changed, and Mr. Fairweather isn't coming courtin'. But I do think it's too bad to give him nothing but baked beans when he comes here, when you know how Mrs. Jones and Mrs. Johnson will lay themselves out."

Mrs. Tibbs cut off a large slice of pork, letting her knife come down with decision upon the hard wood table.

"If he's going to preach to us, Melinda, I don't need a sermon of soups and fancy crackers. But a good plate of baked beans will make the kind o' sermon for me."

Mr. Fairweather, the young candidate for the Meriton pulpit, was to spend the approaching Sabbath at Deacon Tibbs's. As Mrs. Tibbs and Melinda were discussing his next breakfast, he was seated in the cars, with his Greek Testament in his hand, but evidently not in his thoughts. He was thinking of Meriton, and contrasting it with the home he was just leaving. The question in his mind was whether he was fitted to take charge of a strong, powerful but dull church. Evidently the people needed waking up. Could he successfully do it?"

Judging by appearance, most decidedly no! For Mr. Fairweather, though quite tall, was slight, with light hair, grayish-blue eyes, and a complexion to which any sudden emotion brought a change of color. As you looked at him more closely, you saw the thin lips closed firmly together, and the eyes regarded you steadily and squarely, but not forcibly enough for Meriton, would undoubtedly be your decision, as it was mine, when I first met him.

Mr. Fairweather had not gone far in his thoughts, when the cars drew up at the station. He was met, shaken most heartily by the hand, helped into a carriage, and before fairly aroused from his reverie, was drawn easily along over a jolting road by a strong young, bay horse, who carried himself with a sturdy, ringing gait, which suggested any amount of unused power, and, though apparently slow enough, passed over a mile in a very short time. The horse was the first thing that really attracted the minister's attention. It seemed to him very much like the people of Meriton, for both horse and people had considerable in them, but both needed further bringing out. So he broke in upon the ordinary commonplaces, which were being exchanged by saying:

"That is a very powerful horse of yours, Deacon Tibbs."

"Yes, sir," said the deacon, well pleased, "he is, I might say, pretty powerful for one of his breed. He's young yet, only four years, but a pretty average good colt he is."

"I am wanting a good horse," added Mr. Fairweather' "but this one I suppose, is not for sale."

"Well, sir, he isn't; but to be frank with you, sir, I wouldn't sell him to you anyway. You haven't the strength to have him at the other end of the lines, for, all he seems to go along easy-like."

"I can see his easiness comes from his strength," answered Mr. Fairweather, "and I have seen so many horses and people, too, who seem not to be going to the limit of their ability, that the sight is refreshing to me."

"I am glad you like the colt," responded the deacon, doubtfully. "But don't it show a trifle of familiarity with things of which a minister don't study?"

Mr. Fairweather glanced up quickly. "It seems to me, Deacon Tibbs, that a minister has a right as well as others to enjoy all the beautiful creatures with which his good Master has filled the world."

"Yes, certainly," replied Deacon Tibbs; "I only spoke of it because our last minister used to ride considerable, rather more than was befitting a minister, our Meriton folks thought."

Mr. Fairweather had no answer ready to this remark, which had brought him back to his first question. Was he fitted to be a spiritual adviser to the Meriton people? On the very first subject mentioned, he had differed from one of the deacons—and that to him an important subject, for he owed his health in no small measure to his saddle exercise.

The steady, swinging trot quickened perceptibly as a large, white house appeared in sight, until the colt came to a stand-still in front of the wistria-covered door. Deacon Tibbs sprang out, offered his hand to Mr. Fairweather, and then, catching sight of a light bay breast, he called out:

"Here Melinda, come here and take care of the parson, while I unhitch Paul. My darter, Mr. Fairweather."

At the same time Mr. Fairweather is shaking the small red hand in his thin white one, I will introduce Miss Melinda Tibbs to my readers.

She is a fair specimen of a smart New England girl. She has not naturally a large frame, but as she has never been pinched or stunted, she has grown to a full size. Her face is plump without being fat, her cheeks rosy, and her eyes bright and full of mischief. She seems a personification of good nature, as the young minister thought her, though had he peeped into the kitchen window that morning, as she sat by the little cheery table paring apples, he would have known that even her brightness was eclipsed by clouds. There seemed to me just one quality lacking in her, and that not unimportant, depth. Her rosy lips were tightly pressed together; her brown eyes roved carelessly from thing to thing; she roamed from one subject to another, never stopping to think on any of them. Evidently, if Miss Melinda had any strength of mind or character, she, as well as others, had yet to find it out.

It was a very quiet evening the young minister spent, and feeling tired and embarrassed he went early to bed, to gain what rest he could for the next day's duties. After he had closed his door he was made a confidant in what seemed then to be Melinda's greatest trial.

"It's too bad, pa, but ma wouldn't get anything but baked beans and johnnycake for breakfast, and I don't suppose Mr. Fairweather ever heard of baked beans before."

Mrs. Tibbs's voice chimed in, "It's time he did, then, Melinda; but I agree with you, I don't b'lieve he ever did hear of 'em before; most likely he's been brought up on cake and custard."

"Well, I don't know, Jenky," said Dea. Tibbs, "about the cake and custard, but it's nothing agen him if he is not over strong."

"He isn't strong," broke in Melinda, "I could beat him easy in a good race, and that's just the reason why I say he should not eat baked beans."

"Just the reason why he should, Melinda," rejoined Mrs. Tibbs.

"Well, that's kind," soliloquized Mr. Fairweather. "I'm glad to know what I'm going to have for breakfast, and as I have heard of baked beans, I'll do my best to prepare for them."

But that proved hard work, for if there was one article of diet he detested more than another, it was baked beans. And the amount he ate of this New England dish was evidently to be the standard by which his abilities as a man and as a preacher were to be judged.

Mr. Fairweather awoke in the morning with a weight of scarcely defined trouble upon him, which for a moment he could not assign to any event past or to come. But when his breakfast, consisting entirely of baked beans, flashed into his head—metaphorically speaking—he laughed and said to himself:

"The johnnycake will be a comfort—that's one good thing."

As he entered the dining-room he glanced toward the large black pot in front of Deacon Tibbs, but could not see beyond a generous slice of pork nicely browned. The beans were evidently baked by a good cook, a little too moist to suit my taste, I should judge from Mr. Fairweather's description, but not beyond the point to which many good housekeepers aim to bring them.

The young minister did his best, but he found his second piece of johnnycake—for he took a mouthful of this with every mouthful of beans—rapidly disappearing, while the generous supply of beans on his plate was not perceptibly diminished. The worst of it was that Mrs. Tibbs's eyes were from time to time cast scrutinizingly on his plate. Twice he helped himself again to vinegar and pepper, but after all he felt that, in the eyes of the deacon's worthy wife, he had made a bad failure. For when he rose from the table there were some beans left on his plate.

It was more than he could ask that a good sermon should atone for his two misfortunes; of course the Tibbs family would decide that a minister who couldn't eat baked beans and knew a good horse when he saw him, must be a dandified jockey, and not at all the minister for Meriton.

How he got through the rest of the day he could not tell. He tried to preach his best, but at night he lay down with the feeling that some way or other the whole day had been a failure.

It was a surprise to him when he received a unanimous call to the Central church at Meriton. But after he had thoroughly looked at all sides of the question he decided that he might be better fitted for that place than any other. He accepted the call, was installed, and firstly, having no wife to help occupy the parsonage, and secondly, there being no parsonage, he came to board at my house.

After having been in our family a short time, as we sat on the piazza one evening, he said to me rather abruptly:

"Johnson, I wish, if it wouldn't trouble your wife too much, you would once and a while give me baked beans."

"No trouble," I answered, "for we always have them every week. Are you fond of them?"

"No," said he mournfully, "I can't eat them, Johnson, but I mean to learn how to."

And then the whole story of his breakfast at Deacon Tibbs's came out.

Please don't think me so foolish," said our minister, "as to imagine that I must eat just what my people dictate, and like all their favorite dishes. I don't feel that way at all, but these baked beans seem an indispensible dish in Meriton households, and Deacon Tibbs is not the only one who would attribute to daintiness what is really due to taste."

"And how about the race with Miss Melinda?" I asked, laughing.

Mr. Fairweather shook his head. "I'll learn to eat the beans first, Johnson, and then who knows what I may be able to do?"

"Even to driving the colt?"

"Don't speak of the colt, Johnson. It makes me feel insulted some way to see that beautiful animal a common farm drudge. And yet," he added, thoughtfully. "I don't know but good honest work is more honorable than the kind of employment I put my horse to."

"Good, honest work might do, but Deacon Tibbs doesn't know how to treat a horse like that."

"That's just the mystery of it, Johnson. However, a horse which has been trained by him has come out as good in disposition as that."

"That is easily accounted for, as the deacon had but little to do with his early education. But he is rapidly spoiling him.—Some morning he will wake up to lock the stable door after his steed is stolen."

Our new minister, I soon discovered by the way he handled his own fleet little saddle-horse, was by no means unskillful in horsemanship.

The more intimately I became acquainted with him, the more qualities I discovered in him which others did not seem to dream of.

At the end of the first year of Mr. Fairweather's pastorate, his people had very gradually undergone a great change. There was a little of their unused strength put into use; many societies were started which were destined to prove of great good; and yet so quietly had all the work been done that each particular enterprise was attributed to some particular person, and the minister obtained very little credit for it.

To Mr. Fairweather's satisfaction, he had learned so far to partake of Meriton's favorite dish, that every Sunday morning he ate his plateful of beans.

To celebrate the anniversary of his coming to Meriton, Dea. Tibbs called over in the afternoon with Paul harnessed in the carryall. Mrs. Tibbs and Melinda were on the back seat, the deacon held the reins, with a broad smile on his genial face, and pointed to the seat beside him with a warm invitation to the minister to occupy it during a ride into the country.

It was the first time he had ridden after Paul since he came up that Saturday night from the station. Dea. Tibbs usually drove the old horse Pansy, and always seemed a little reluctant to have the minister see too many of the colt's fine qualities. They had not driven far before Fairweather saw there had been a great change in Paul; there was the same easiness of gait, but mingled with it, a slight reluctance, an occasional quick start and toss of the head which seemed to come from nervousness. He felt that in some way his spirit had been stamped down, though by no means unsubdued, and he had been fretted and his will so constantly crossed, so teased, that his amiable disposition seemed entirely gone.

"I can't imagine," said the deacon, "what on airth's the matter with Paul; he has hardly paid the time I've spent on him, for he's getting kind o' cross and restive, and's as set as set can be."

He had scarcely finished the words before Paul reared and came to a dead stop. The deacon chirruped. The horse laid his ears back close to his head, and planted his feet firmly and seemed to stiffen into stone.

Deacon Tibbs seized the whip and laid it squarely and fairly on his back. For a second he trembled, and then gave one dash forward and broke into a fearful run.

For the first time the deacon realized Paul's wonderful strength. The power which had so long lain untried came into full play. The ground was passed over with a rapidity incredible, even for a run-away.

Deacon Tibbs' face grew white, the pulling and jerking into which he put his whole strength had no slightest effect on the horse. His mouth seemed of the same material as the bit.

There was one hope—a high hill was just before them, and surely the horse would draw up and become manageable then.

But with a lightness and ease scarcely credible, he carried them up the hill.

It seemed certain death then. For at the foot of the hill the bridge was up for repairs, and the not over-stout rope stretched across the road would surely break like thread before his fury.

Mr. Fairweather, as they neared the top of the hill, took the reins from the deacon's fingers, and spoke as quietly as possible to the excited horse.

But his voice and his quiet steady pull seemed to have no effect upon Paul. He dashed down the hill at a rapid rate. No, not quite! He was certainly slackening a little. Again, Mr. Fairweather spoke, in tones of authority, but calmly—he pulled harder on the reins.

Paul drew up, and before he quite reached the rope came to a dead stop.

Fairweather sprang from the carriage and went to his head. He was almost startled at the calmness he met in the horse's eye, but there was a look of deliberate anger, which gradually wore away as he caressed him.

The carriage did not prove to be broken at all, but Deacon Tibbs, as well as his wife and daughter, decidedly refused to ride home, and as walking seemed to be out of the question for Mrs. Tibbs—who knows what Miss Melinda might have done? It was deemed best that Fairweather should ride back on Paul, and drive my horse and carriage out for the three.

He knotted the harness into stirrups, sprang on his back and turned toward the town. Paul had by no means lost his nervous defiance, but this gradually wore away. Fairweather's firm tones seemed much more, or rather pleasantly less effective, than the deacon's whip. And while I was helping him hitch up Bess, he indulged in no stinted praise of the animal he had always so highly admired.

The incident ended agreeably after all.

Mrs. Tibbs refused to take a seat back on the homeward route, for she wanted to be, so she said, where she could jump "in case the critter run." And so the minister and Melinda were seat-mates on the homeward journey. She had but little to say, but her sweet young face gazed from the carriage window with a really thoughtful look.

Mr. Fairweather watched her with curiosity. "I do believe the girl's thinking," he said to himself. "There's something to her after all."

Although my acquaintance with our new minister dated only a year back, we had been thrown so intimately together that I had already found in him my most valued friend. It was not long after this ride that I began to see that the interest awakened some time before in Matilda Tibbs was gradually deepening. One night I jokingly said to him:

"Oh, by the way Fairweather, it seems to me it is about time for you to settle down in a home of your own."

"It will be a long time before then, Johnson."

"Need it be?" I answered. "Couldn't you persuade Miss Melinda—"

"Fairweather's face flushed. "I don't know what you're thinking about Johnson. I do feel that Melinda—I can't express it to you and I see you know how it is. The first time I saw her I wished she could be placed in circumstances to bring out what there is in her—"

"Like Paul," I suggested.

"If, indeed, she really has any depth of character. Since then she has occasionally given me some glimpses which encouraged me to think that a wider sphere and larger knowledge—in short development in every direction—would make her as noble a woman as ever lived."

Fairweather rose abruptly and walked to the window, mechanically crossed back and forth from one end of the room to the other for some time, and then threw himself in a chair by my side.

"What can I do about it, Johnson?"

"I don't know, Reuben," I answered, "unless you take her in hand as you have Paul."

For after the runaway he had hired Paul for a year, sent his saddle-horse back to his father, and henceforth devoted an hour, sometimes more, every day to his new favorite's education. It was a long time before Paul showed any signs of abandoning his suspicious ways and spunkiness. But gradually he found he could trust his new master; day by day he became more willing to do what was asked of him, till there sprung up a perfect confidence between horse and rider. After this Paul never failed him; no matter how hard the task Fairweather required of him, there was never the least sign of reluctance. But still it was all in vain he offered the deacon a high price for his horse. He would not sell him.

I gave my advice most honestly, for I believed that he could mould a character like Melinda's into something true and noble. But he was wiser than I, and I am not sure but Deacon Tibbs and his wife were wiser than either of us, for Mrs. Johnson came home from the next ladies' sewing circle with a piece of news. Melinda Tibbs was going to spend a year with a cousin of her father's in New York City.

As I have no means of following Melinda in her city life, there is but little to write. In Meriton, things were all prosperous—a new element seemed to have entered into the people, and a new strength put forth.—The question was certainly decided, for all agreed that no fitter minister for the Meriton church, than Reuben Fairweather could have been been found.

I could see he awaited Melinda's homecoming with no little interest and no little fear.

And when she came, she came very much changed from the girl she left Meriton. In the first place, my wife said she had gained in style—that was very good, but by no means everything. I could see many ways she was toned down, quieted and rendered more pleasing in society. And, secondly, she had gained a more important thing, intellectual culture; her head was full of ideas and thoughts, and on any subject she could converse with ease. And, thirdly, she came home accomplished—her natural taste for music had been encouraged, till she became a musician capable of giving much pleasure to others, while her water-color sketches were by no means devoid of merit.

And yet Fairweather was disappointed. There was still wanting that depth of character, of which all her sweetness and accomplishments could not supply their place; wanting, did I write? It were better to say, this was still unrevealed; for a character as beautiful as rare was hidden under this vivacity, which was still to be brought into strong light. * * * * * *

Three years from the time my story opened the church bells of Meriton rang out merrily one Thursday morning. There was to be a wedding in the church. In the groom you will easily recognize Fairweather, for he has changed but little; but you would have to look many times before you became quite sure that the bride is really Miss Melinda Tibbs. You surely have not forgotten her smile, and if the brown eyes have grown full of meaning, and the rounded lips beautiful by a more thoughtful expression, she is still—but not long to be—Melinda Tibbs.

As Mr. and Mrs. Fairweather leave the church, they drive up in an old carryall to Deacon Tibbs, where the wedding dinner is awaiting. In the most conspicuous place, on the table is a large pot of baked beans, of which both groom and bride partake with evident enjoyment.

And Mr. Fairwether amid considerable laughter, tells the story of how he learned to eat baked beans, while Mrs. Tibbs adds most heartily:

"If you her changed, Reuben, and I believe you her since then, you may be sure 'tis all owing to the baked beans you've ate every week. For I allers will stick to it that a man who doesn't eat baked beans isn't just the man fur rale hard work in divinity."

"Then I am ready for anything now," answered Reuben, pleasantly, "judging by the quantity I have eaten of your beans."

After dinner was over and all the goodbyes said as the minister and his wife stepped into the carriage, Deacon Tibbs put a note into his hand. It read:

"Dear Son Reuben: I found out some time sence that you had consid'rable grit in you, or I shouldn't have trusted Melindy to you. You like that colt, Paul, and if you'd like, you may have him. I never could do anything with him, and that you may live long and enjoy him, and be blessed abundantly—both you and your wife—is the most sincere and earnest wish of your ob't servant, SAMUEL TIBBS.

An Interesting Story.

The following story, which comes under the category of "highly interesting if true," is told of Commodore Ammen, Chief of the Bureau of Navigation in the Navy Department: During the rebellion, Ammen, then a captain in the navy, was placed in command of a party of men who had enlisted in San Francisco for the Pacific squadron. They were embarked on a merchant transport, and a few days out the men, among whom were many rough characters, showed a disposition to mutiny, alleging that their food was unfit or insufficient. The muttered threats and black looks at length became so alarming that the master of the vessel, fearing for its safety, as well as for the lives of himself and crew, who were outnumbered ten to one, expressed to Captain Ammen his fears and his inclination to make for the nearest port.

"Why make for port?" asked Ammen, "I am in command, and I wish to go to the squareon."

"But," replied the master, "they will kill us all—they will kill you if you go among them."

"We will see about that," said the captain.

Arming himself, he went down where the men were gathered, and walked in among them. Voices were immediately hushed, and one burly fellow named Murphy, the leader in the mischief, came toward him, determined evidently to begin the work of destruction at once. Raising his revolver, Ammen shot the man dead, and then commanded, in a voice which contained much more than words, "Throw him overboard." Recovering from their stupor, the men glared like wild beasts upon the intrepid captain, and soon a second mutineer gained courage to make a move toward him. Another shot, and again came the order, "Throw him overboard." Yet once more was the awful tragedy repeated, and a third bloody feast was thrown to the sharks. The mutiny was ended. The men huddled in the farthest corners. Pointing out one by one the remaining ringleaders, Ammen ordered their companions to put them in irons, and when this was done he returned to his stateroom.

Napoleon's Advice.

During one of his talkative moods at St. Helena Napoleon said: "Russia is the power now most to be apprehended. If they organize Poland she will be invincible. She always had a longing for Turkey, but I stood in her way in that quarter." England at that time had lent all her energies and power to stop the aggressions of the French and destroy their power in Europe, and to that end all the allies combined. English statesmen could not see the influence Russia was to have in future years as Napoleon did, and so courted Russia's aid to break forever the power of Napoleon. It was the intention of Napoleon to so cripple Russia that she would never again be a disturbing element in European politics, and to this end, undertook the Moscow campaign; but he signally failed, England preventing him, and she is now paying the penalty. The rise of Russia to a great power dates from 1812, when with the aid of English money, she destroyed the great army of Napoleon. It was not until 1850 that England saw her mistake, which became apparent by the advance of Russia in Asia, her constant menace of Turkey, and the desire to get possession of India. England is now fully aware of her suicidal folly of 65 years ago, and is doing her best to repair the damage, but it is too late. The two empires Napoleon tried to crush, Germany and Russia, but was prevented by England, are now masters of Europe.

☞ "Where are the friends of my youth?" sang a wretched vocalist at a concert. As he came off the stage into the green room the manager remarked to him: "It is very evident that they are not here; I will give you the rest of the season in which to go and look them up."

A Bottomless Lake.

Pyramid Lake is nearly forty miles in length by from fifteen to twenty in width. It is but 4,000 feet above the level of the sea, while Lake Tahoe is 6216 feet above the sea level. The lake contains many islands, several of which, near the middle of the lake, rise to the height of some hundreds of feet, and are pyramids in form and light gray in color. One tall spire, seen far down to the northward, where the lake seems shoreless, is perfectly white. A large island, probably the largest in the lake, contains five or six square miles of compatatively level ground, and is covered with vegetation. Upon this island a number of goats were turned loose some years since, and they have increased at a wonderful rate, so that they may now be seen feeding upon every hill. They need no care, winter or summer, and are about as wild as the goats found by Robinson Crusoe on the island of Juan Fernandez. The lake is of immense depth; it is said that near the centre 600 fathoms of line failed to find bottom. The waters of the lake are brackish, except immediately about the point where the waters of the Truckee River flow into it. Owing to the brackishness of its waters, to its great depth, or to both depth and brackishness, the lake never freezes. Although the lake is generally very rough, owing to its being exposed to sweeping westerly winds, the Pinte Indians fearlessly navigate it in all directions and almost at all times on their tule rafts. These rafts are often nothing more than a single bundle of tules, but when the raft is intended to accommodate more than one person, two or three bundles are lashed together and drawn into the shape of a clumsy boat. Near shore they generally pole these crafts about, but they frequently hoist a sail made of a blanket and fearlessly steer away so far out upon the lake that only their sail remains visible. These tule boats very closely resemble the catamarans used by the natives of some of the islands of the South Pacific. They are so bouyant that it is impossible to sink them. Far out in the lake among the islands they set their long lines, strung full of hooks. These they visit on their rafts, and sometimes bring in not less that three hundred pounds of trout at one trip. The trout are sold at 10 cents per lb., at the lake, therefore it will readily be seen that fishing is a profitable business. At the north or lower end of the lake are a dozen or more islands of rock of peculiar and picturesque form. They are composed of solid rock, and are from 300 to 400 feet in height. At a distance they look like monster mushrooms or eggs standing on stems—such eggs as might have been produced by the roc, that bird of ancient times, one wing of which, according to Ibu-El-Wardee, was 10,000 fathoms long. It is impossible to climb these rocks, as, while their stems form perpendicular walls, it is beyond the power of man to ascend those parts where they begin to swell out into domes. Mr. Stiles says he has sounded the lake at the base of some of these fantastic islands, and, with the longest line at his command, was unable to find bottom. One of the largest of these islands, the tall, white one seen from toward the head of the lake, is not wholly perpendicular on all sides. On one of its sides there is a steep slope which it is thought might be scaled in some way. A story is current at the lake that John C. Fremont, the great "Pathfinder," found a path to the top of this rock. It is believed that he left his fieldglasses and some other instruments of value on the summit of the rock, and many attempts have been made to climb it in order to secure these articles. The last attempt to scale the pyramid was by a sailor, who used a long rope, throwing it upward till it caught on a projecting point of rock, then drawing himself up and again throwing his rope to a rock above. He reached a height of about one hundred and fifty feet, when he was unable to find any more projections over which to throw his rope, and came near never reaching level ground alive. He was obliged to decend in the same way as he effected the ascent, and when he finally got down he was completely exhausted; his hands were bleeding, and he was cut and scratched from head to foot. The fishermen have now concluded that the only way in which the field-glasses and other plunder can be secured is by attaching a line to a rock and then firing it over the top of the pyramid from a mortar. One of the small, rocky islands of the lake is alive with rattlesnakes. It is supposed that the first of the stock were wafted to the island on a raft of tules or driftwood. Doctor Wood, who has visited the island, says there is "millions in it." The reptiles have their homes among the rocks, and live on the eggs and young of water-fowl, and upon the dead fishes that are cast ashore on the island. Mr. Wood says that the stories that have been told of the snakes rushing in a body, hissing and rattling, to attack any man landing on the island, are untrue. He found that whenever they were disturbed they ran away and concealed themselves in the crevices of the rocks, just as would have been done by any other snakes.—*Virginia (Nev.) Enterprise.*

Old Times in Colorado.

The first settlers of Boulder came here in 1858. In 1859 quite a number came, and some sixty log houses were erected before 1860 stepped in. Of these log houses but a few remain. Christmas, 1859, saw a jovial crowd of dancers in one of these houses, window-less, we believe, at that time. The hardy pioneers, was after fun, had it. On the night in question, about two hundred sons of toil and seekers of gold and their fortunes, and seventeen ladies had assembled at the above-named place to partake of a frontier terpsichorean. Marinus G. Smith was then one of the beaux of the town, and his dress suit consisted of a pair of pants made out of seamless sacks, and colored blue by the aid of logwood. A lady now living in town had an elegant dress made out of flour-sacks, also colored by the aid of logwood. There were few white shirts in the neighborhood then, most of the pioneers wearing woolen or flannel ones. A man with a white shirt on was in style, and could dance with his coat off; a man without any would wear a coat buttoned up to the neck. Coats for dancing purposes did not seem to be any too numerous, consequently the pioneers helped each other out. For instance, Alf Nichols had six white shirts, which were all at that ball, and the coats of these six white-shirted fellows went to cover the backs of some one else. When one fellow had a dance he would loan his coat to another, and then his turn would come, and so the white shirts and long coats were dancing all night, and went around among the two hundred men. There were no wall-flowers among the seventeen ladies. But they say the supper on the occasion was a grand affair. Wash-boilers full of coffee, great hunks of black-tailed deer, jack rabbits, fish, game, and delicacies brought from the States in cans, all went to make up a glorious supper, one that the partakers would like to see repeated. There may not have been much style, but the seamless sacks and flour-bags saw as much pure enjoyment as does the finest and gaudiest attire of to-day—*Boulder (Col.) Mirror.*

What Daniel Webster thought of Public Life and Politics.

In [illegible] Harvey's "Reminiscences" of the great [illegible]an, just published, is the following [illegible]on to the author:

"I am [illegible]aware,—and it would be affectation in me to deny it,—that I have a public reputation to leave to posterity; but it has been earned with difficulty. If I were to live my life [illegible] again, with my present experience, I would, under no circumstance and from no considerations, allow myself to enter public life. The public are ungrateful. The man who serves the public most faithfully receives no adequate reward. In my own history, the acts which have been, before God, the most disinterested and the least stained by selfish considerations, have been precisely those for which I have been most freely abused. No! no! have nothing to do with politics. Sell your iron; eat the bread of independence; support your family with the rewards of honest toil; do your duty as a private citizen to your country—but let politics alone. It is a hard life, a thankless life."

☞ A lumber merchant sat in his counting-house bemoaning the hard times and the discontinuance of those large colliery orders which, in days of prosperity, were wont to flow in upon him in grateful profusion, when his gloomy cogitations were interrupted by the entrance of a dingy customer evidently from the collieries. The stranger briskly demanded if the merchant had any plane trees in store at present. "Plane trees, sir?" replied the merchant, stepping forward with a bland smile. "As good a stock as any on the Tyne, sir! Do you want it in the log or plank? We have an abundance of both." "I'm not particular!" answered the pitman. "It's only for a fiddle-bridge I want to make!"

☞ "My wife tells the truth three times a day," remarked a jocose old fellow at the same time casting a mischievous glance at her. "Before rising in the morning she says: 'Oh dear, I must get up, but I don't want to.' After breakfast she adds: 'Well, I suppose I must go to work, but I don't want to.' And she goes to bed saying: 'There, I've been fussing all day, and have n't done anything."

☞ Why is a nursery a good place for dancing? Because it is a regular bawl-room.

Young Folks' Column.

The Mocking-bird and the Donkey.

BY WILLIAM CULLEN BRYANT.

A mock-bird in a village
Had somehow gained the skill
To imitate the voices
Of animals at will.

And singing in his prison,
Once, at the close of day,
He gave, with great precis on,
The donkey's heavy bray.

Well pleased, the mock-bird's master
Sent to the neighbor's 'round,
And bade them come together
To hear that curious sound.

They came, and all were talking
In praise of what they heard,
And one delighted lady
Would fain have bought the bird.

A donkey listened sadly,
And said: "Confess I must
That these are shallow people,
And terribly unjust.

"I'm bigger than the mock-bird,
And better bray than he,
Yet not a soul has uttered
A word in praise of me." —*St. Nicholas.*

The Giant and the Missing Children.

Did our young readers ever hear the German story of the Giant and the Missing Children? It tells what happened a long time ago in a little village among the mountains. One summer there the children began to disappear one by one. It was certain that they were not kidnapped, and it was just as sure that they did not run away. The first that vanished was little Hans Stobbelt.

"Has anybody seen my Hans?" cried his granny, standing outside the door of her cottage. "I had just told him I wanted him to go to the miller's, and he has disappeared, somehow, all at once, without knowing what the errand is. Hans! where are you?" she shouted. "Why, he was here not half a minute ago."

But none of the neighbors could tell anything of Hans. What is more, Hans did not reappear. The night passed, and he did not come; the next morning, nothing was to be seen of him. All the villagers were much excited, for, though Hans had not been a good boy, everybody was sorry at this having happened to him. While a group of them round about the grandmother were pitying her, a cry arose in one of the other cottages. Those who hurried there found Frau Hickelt standing near the hearth with her hands raised, gazing vacantly before her.

"My Gretchen is gone!" she said in a frightened voice. "I just bid her clean the hearth, and when I looked again she was not there. Where is she gone?" she asked, turning from one to another of them. They could only shake their heads. In fact, they thought Frau Hickelt had gone mad. But it was quite true that Gretchen was not to be found, though they looked every where for her both indoors and out.

That day three other children vanished. On the next day five went. All the village was in alarm, that is, the elders were, for they tried to keep it from the children themselves. There was no certainty about any boy or girl in the place. The grown-up people had but to turn their backs, and he or she was gone in an instant.

At last a stranger arrived. He was got to the mystery. Little Augusta Hirsch vanished when her aunt as well as her mother was in the kitchen.

The aunt said, "I saw her go! At her mother's bidding she had just taken the broom to sweep behind the stove, when all at once she disappeared, just as she was speaking the words, 'I wish—.' But she hadn't time to finish. I heard nothing more. She was gone like a flash."

"That is very strange," exclaimed Granny Stobbelt, who was one of the listeners. "Now you speak of it, the last words I heard my Hans say behind my back were, 'I wish —.'"

"Those very words my Gretchen said!" cried Frau Hickelt.

Indeed, nearly everybody who lost a child came forward, and each and all were able to confirm this. Two things could be made out—first, that the children only went when their elders had set them to do some task; second, that in the act of vanishing, they all uttered the words, 'I wish——." But in about a week's time the thing was carried a step farther.

"My Gustave is gone!" Cried William Neumark, appearing excitedly at the gate of his little garden. "My ears are quick," he added, as the neighbors gathered around; "and I clearly heard all the words he said. I had bid him dig faster, and he answered, 'I wish there was no digging.'"

"Why, our Hans did not want to go to the miller's," Granny Stobbelt hastened to say.

"Nor," exclaimed Frau Hickelt, "did my Gretchen like to dust up the hearth."

"It is so," solemnly said William Neumark. "They are taken away for being discontented at there being any work to do in life. They want it all play."

All the hearers grew more afraid on hearing this, and looked at one another. Scarcely a minute passed before a woman in the group said:

"What great shape is that I see upon the mountain yonder?"

Every head turned towards the Eagle Cliff as it was called. It was a lofty rock some distance from the village, but looking right down the valley towards it. The distance was too great for things on the rock to be clearly made out, but the woman declared that she could see the figure of a giant sitting there. She said he was clothed in a mantle, half blown back by the wind, and that he wore a hood on his head. No sooner did she say this than several others saw it all. Then two or three voices cried out together:

"See, he is lifting his right arm and beckoning."

At that instant a cry sounded from one of the houses. They knew it meant that a child had vanished. While they were looking in amazement, the giant again raised his arm beckoningly. As he did so, there came a fresh cry—another child had been taken. The whole thing now was plain—the children disappeared whenever the giant, on hearing their complaining wishes, signaled for them.

The next morning his huge shape could be seen more distinctly sitting on the rock, and, whenever he beckoned a child went. The white-haired Lutheran minister, just as the sun was setting, came in front of the crowd and said:

"Let us each to-night by our bedside pray that the children may be forgiven and restored to us."

This prayer was answered. Early the next morning, some who were watching, raised a cry, saying that the children were coming back. In a long procession, the little people were seen winding down the valley. Their fathers and mothers and all the inhabitants ran to meet them. They were astonished to see how meek the returning children were.

"Oh, let us get back to our work in helping you," cried out a hubbub of boys' and girls' voices.

No sooner had they neared the houses than the boys rushed into the gardens, and, snatching up spades began to dig; while the girls, darting into the dwellings, instantly were busy sweeping, dusting and polishing.

The explanation they all gave was this: "While we were kept inside the mountain, we were not allowed to do anything, at all, and, oh, it was so hard! The good giant said that we could not have play without work also."

All looked towards the rock, but the figure of the giant was no longer to be seen. The boys and girls were much the better for his visit.—*Churchman.*

The Little Outcast.

Nearly four thousand years ago a poor mother, with her boy, was turned out of doors to wander in the wilderness, and, for aught she knew, to die. Where could she find food and water in that barren place to keep the old wolf, famine, away?

But the Lord saw her great trouble and showed her a way out of it.

So they both lived, and the little boy in due time became a strong man and an archer; that is, he lived by hunting.

That was a very roving sort of life, and I presume his mother lived with him, for the story says she took him a wife from the land of Egypt, and that was a long way from their old home.

But I dare say Hagar, for this was the mother's name, came to like this sort of life quite well.

Certain it is that her grandchildren and all their descendants liked it. For though they became in time quite a nation, they still live the same wandering lives, with tents for their only shelter, besides the starry sky, camels carrying all their worldly goods from place to place.

The little boy's name was Ishmael, and his father's Abraham.

The strange and interesting people who descended from the little outcast we call Arabs.—*Young Reaper.*

☞ "I've got a boy for you, sir," said a man to the master workman of a large establishment.

"Glad of it; who is he?"

The man told the boy's name, and where he lived. "Don't want him," said the master workman; "he has got a bad mark. I meet him every day with a cigar in his mouth. I don't want smokers."

VEGETINE

Purifies the Blood, Renovates and Invigorates the Whole System.

Its Medical Qualities are

Alterative, Tonic, Solvent and Diuretic.

VEGETINE is made exclusively from the juices of carefully-selected barks, roots, and herbs, and so strongly concentrated that it will effectually eradicate from the system every taint of Scrofula, Scrofulous Humor, Tumors, Cancer, Cancerous Humor, Erysipelas, Salt Rheum, Syphilitic Diseases, Canker, Faintness at the Stomach, and all diseases that arise from impure blood. Sciatica, Inflammatory and Chronic Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Gout and Spinal Complaints, can only be effectually cured through the blood.

For Ulcers and Eruptive Diseases of the Skin, Pustules, Pimples, Blotches, Boils, Tetter, Scald-head, and Ringworm, VEGETINE has never failed to effect a permanent cure.

For Pains in the Back, Kidney Complaints, Dropsy, Female Weakness, Leucorrhœa, arising from internal ulceration, and uterine diseases and General Debility, VEGETINE acts directly upon the causes of these complaints. It invigorates and strengthens the whole system, acts upon the secretive organs, allays inflammation, cures ulceration, and regulates the bowels.

For Catarrh, Dyspepsia, Habitual Costiveness, Palpitation of the Heart, Headache, Piles, Nervousness, and General Prostration of the Nervous System, no medicine has ever given such perfect satisfaction as the VEGETINE. It purifies the blood, cleanses all of the organs, and possesses a controlling power over the nervous system.

The remarkable cures effected by VEGETINE have induced many physicians and apothecaries whom we know to prescribe and use it in their own families. In fact, VEGETINE is the best remedy yet discovered for the above diseases, and is the only reliable Blood Purifier yet placed before the public.

THE BEST EVIDENCE.

The following letter from Rev. E. S. Best, Pastor of M. E. Church, Natick, Mass., will be read with interest by many physicians; also those suffering from the same diseases as afflicted the son of Rev. E. S. Best. No person can doubt this testimony, as there is no doubt about the curative powers of VEGETINE.

Natick, Mass, Jan. 1, 1874.

Mr. H. R. STEVENS:

Dear Sir:—We have good reason for regarding your VEGETINE a medicine of great value. We feel assured that it has been the means of saving our son's life. He is now seventeen years of age. For the last two years he has suffered from necrosis of his leg, caused by scrofulous affection, and was so far reduced that nearly all who saw him thought his recovery impossible. A council of able physicians was held, and it was the fairest hope of his ever rallying; two of the number declaring that he was beyond the reach of human remedies, that even amputation would not save